BETTER BUILT HOMES

VOLUME VII

JXX
(1921) Curtis

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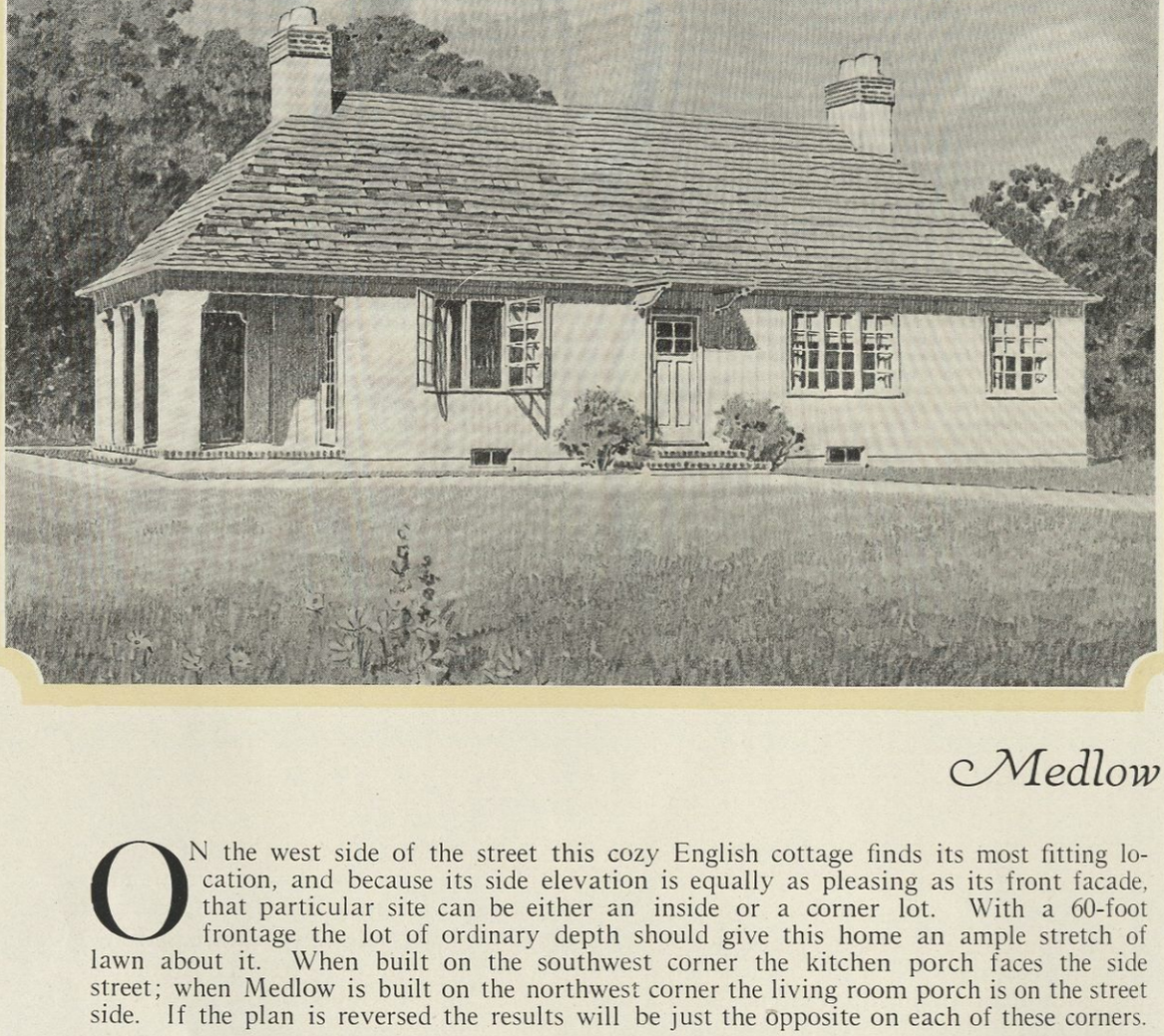
Six Rooms for An

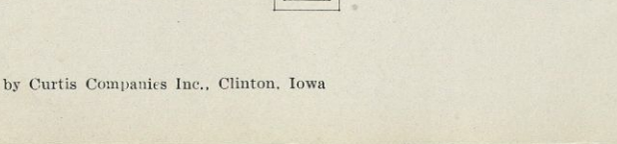


Medlow C

ON the west side of the street this cozy English cottage finds its most fitting location, and because its side elevation is equally as pleasing as its front facade, that particular site can be either an inside or a corner lot. With a 60-foot frontage the lot of ordinary depth should give this home an ample stretch of lawn about it. When built on the southwest corner the kitchen porch faces the side street; when Medlow is built on the northwest corner the living room porch is on the street side. If the plan is reversed the results will be just the opposite on each of these corners.

The low-lying mass of this house gives it an appearance of solidity and comfortableness that is brought out effectively in hollow tile construction with broad, shingled roof. Brick construction is also well suited for this design and is very pleasing in contrast with white painted window frames, entrances and porch posts.

When you enter Medlow by way of the front entrance, with its pretty hooded doorway, you come upon the pleasing vista you see in the interior picture. Isn't it delightfully homelike? You can sit contentedly by this fireside; and through the French door on one side you get a glimpse of your garden or lawn beyond the side porch; while triple



The Plan

IN A HOUSE whose rooms are all on one floor it is somewhat difficult to separate efficiently the main part of the house from the sleeping rooms. However, this has been happily accomplished in Medlow and if three bedrooms, a large living room, a large dining room and a handy kitchen will serve your family, you will always enjoy this cozy English cottage.

It is not often that one finds a rear entry that provides a storage closet and still has plenty of space for the icebox. This entry gives direct access to the basement from both the kitchen and the outside.

Ample storage is provided by two rooms in the basement. They lie beneath the bedroom, bathroom and living room, and their entrances are only a step or two from the foot of the basement stairs. The stairs bring you directly into the furnace room, beneath the dining room; its coal bin is beneath the kitchen and separated from the furnace room.

Exteriors C-600, C-602 and C-603 architectural expressio

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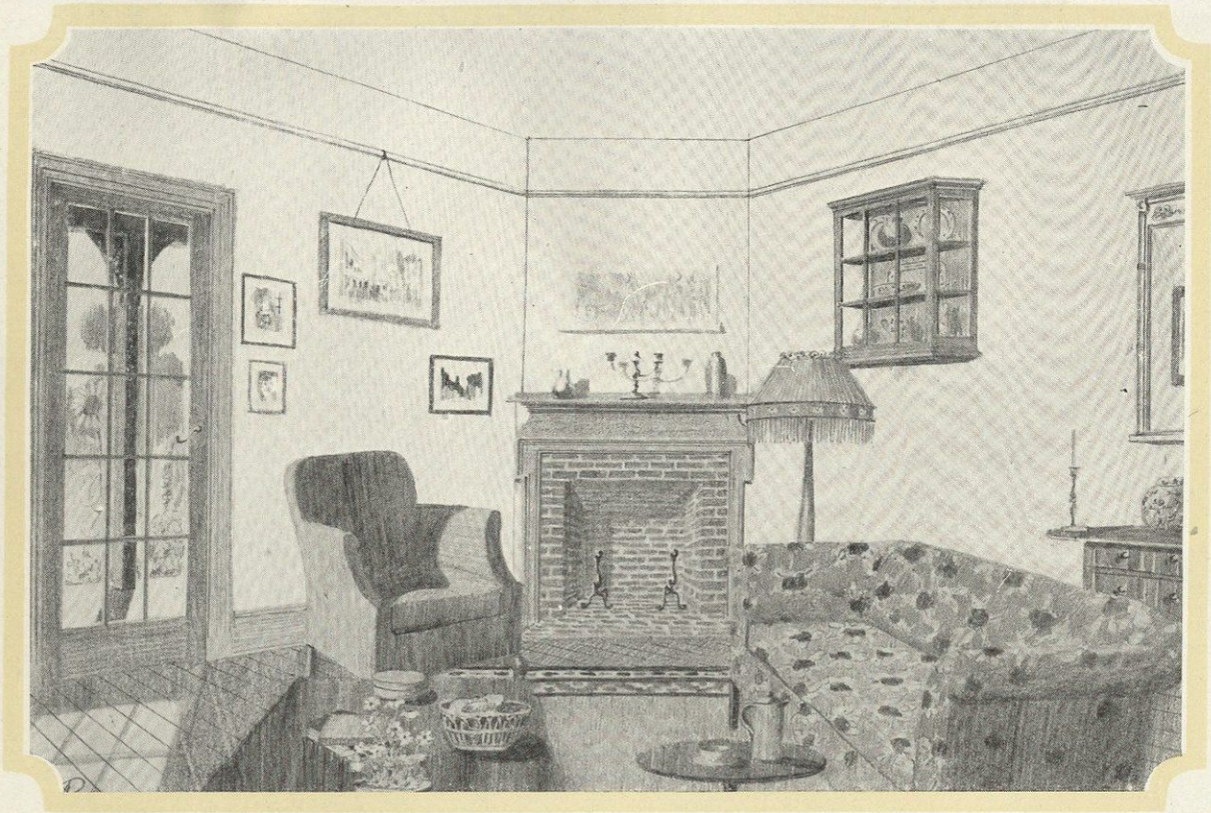
Eastern Frontage



-601—English

casement sash on another side bring views from the front of the house to your attention.

Between the living room and dining room French doors provide sufficient separation at any time, yet on occasions are a means whereby these two rooms may be more closely united. Corner cupboards of English design are interesting permanent features in the dining room, just opposite the triple casement sash.

All three bedrooms are comfortable in size and are well ventilated. Especially is this true of the rear bedroom with its double casement sash on three sides. The bedroom nearest the bathroom has openings on two sides, and direct access to the sleeping porch at the rear, which is also reached from the other bedrooms by way of the long hall that leads to the living room and bathroom and has two good closets opening onto it. The closet nearest the bathroom is fitted with ample trays and drawers, where towels and bed linens can be stored. For the other closet, somewhat larger in size, shelves are suggested. The living portion of this home forms a compact unit and is effectually separated from the bath and sleeping rooms. The centrally located hall makes for the easy accomplishment of household tasks. The larger closet at the end of the hall should not be overlooked.

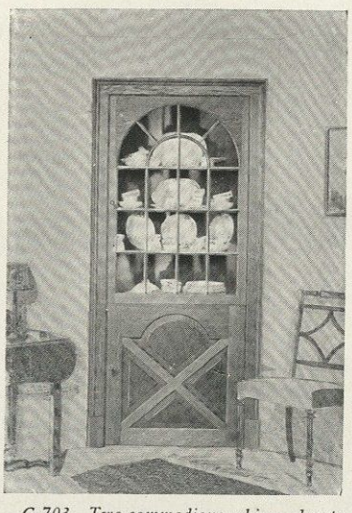
The Woodwork

NOTHING THAT COULD *possibly lighten kitchen work seems to have been forgotten in this kitchen, for not only is it equipped with modern fixtures, but these have all been carefully arranged to eliminate wasted time and effort. This arrangement has also resulted in obtaining excellent daylight for these fixtures from the many casement sash on two sides of the kitchen, that afford a cheerful outlook for the worker.*

A built-in dresser extending from floor to ceiling located as it is between the sink and the worktable gets maximum usefulness out of the kitchen. The ironing board in its dust-proof case is ever ready for immediate service. It is adjustable as to height thus eliminating fatigue which always results from working at any fixture which is not exactly the correct height.

If there is one place where compactness is essential it is the bathroom. There, a medicine cabinet with adjustable shelves and mirror door provides ample room for necessary toilet articles and medicines.

Tray and hanging closets in all three bedrooms insure orderly closets and less work for the housewife in "picking up" after other members of the family. Both types of closets are built-in behind doors which are identical with all others on the second floor.



C-703. Two commodious china closets of this interesting design utilize and ornament the corners of the dining room.

in the introduction illustrate other
ons of this basic plan.

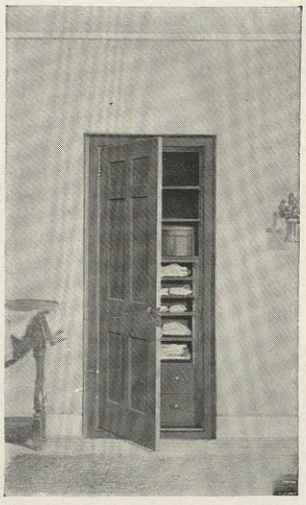
CURTIS WOODWORK

Six Comfortable R

Wamega C-6(

YOUR lot need have only a 60-foot frontage to give this one-story Southern cottage a comfortable and attractive setting. With its many large windows on all sides and its living room directly in the center of the front, you will find a south or east exposure for Wamega the best. In building this house on a corner lot it may happen that in order to attain the proper orientation for certain rooms and still have your dining room and kitchen or your bedroom and sleeping porch face the side street, you will have to reverse the entire plan. This can be done easily without disturbing the living room. When the service rooms are on the street side you can arrange to have a direct side entrance to the rear porch and kitchen.

Now, if you live in a northern latitude and have found this house interesting and well suited to your needs, do not think that because Wamega has been termed a Southern house that you cannot build it on your lot. You can have a basement beneath it, with furnace room, laundry and storage room, without building a high foundation, thus spoiling the beauty of this low-lying design, but by using cellar sash in excavated areaways to light the basement rooms.



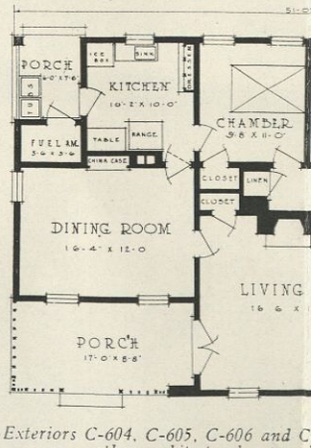
C-813. It is always convenient to have a storage place for bed linen, towels, and such things.

No Waste Space

WAMEGA BOASTS *two splendid front porches. The one at the right of the living room is enclosed with screens. If desired sash may be secured for use during the colder months thus adding another room to this already convenient home.*

Could the housewife who is to live in Wamega have planned the kitchen herself, she could hardly have achieved a more successful layout of its equipment. Look at the sink and drainboard placed beneath the rear window to receive the best of light; the refrigerator, in the coolest corner; the dresser where good light will be thrown upon its cabinets and molding boards; and the worktable conveniently near the range. A fuel room is conveniently off the rear porch.

Each one of these bedrooms has direct communication with the comfortably arranged daylight bathroom by means of the central hall. The sleeping rooms are effectually separated from the main part of the house.



Exteriors C-604, C-605, C-606 and C other architectural expressi

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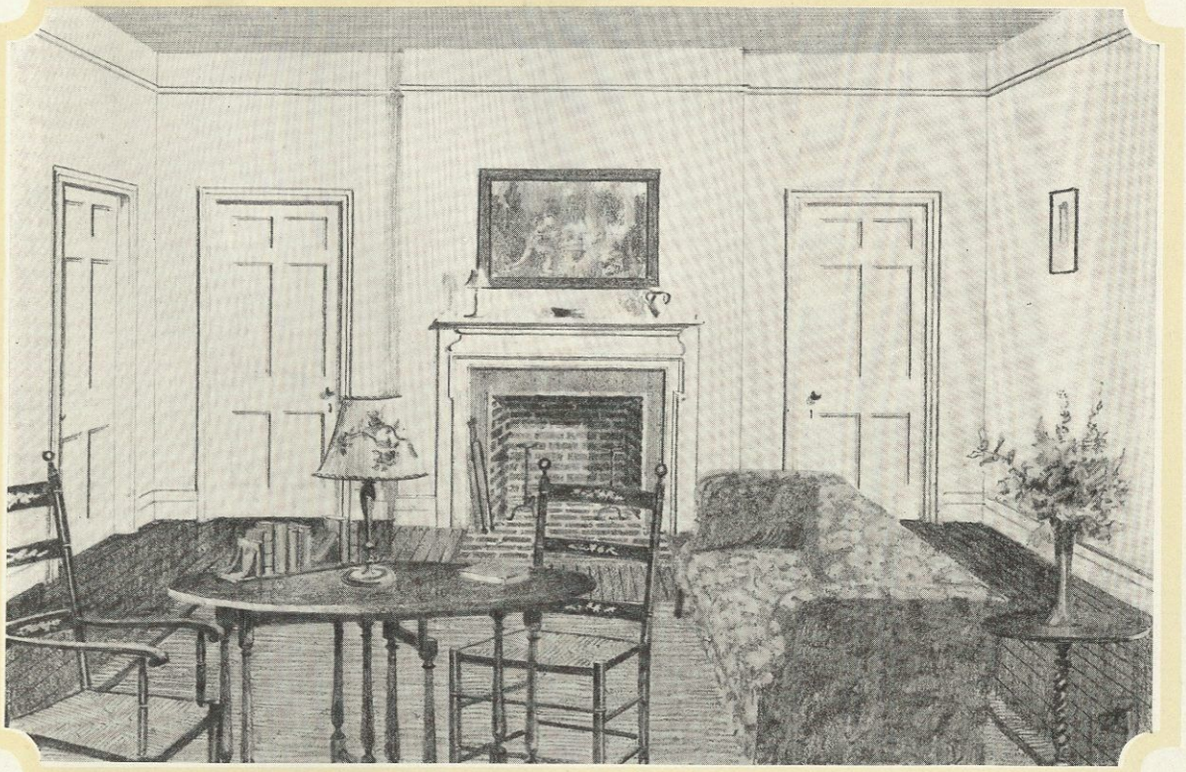
ooms on One Floor



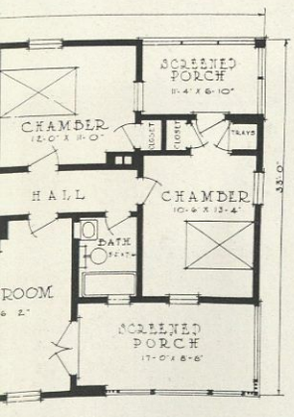
07—Southern

Most of the beauty of this design lies in its simplicity of line and the dainty trellises that screen both porches. Notice the pergola-like appearance of the porch roofs and how this effect is carried out in exposed rafter ends around the main roof.

If you like, you could glaze one of these porches to make it into a comfortable sunroom for cool days when the open porch would be chilly and uncomfortable. A unique treatment of the main hip roof ends it in a gable at the top providing a ventilated attic which helps to keep the rooms beneath cooler in the summertime.

One bedroom connects directly with the kitchen and for this reason can be used as the maid's room if desired. It is exceptionally well lighted and ventilated for its size and has an ample hanging closet. Both other bedrooms are equally well fitted with hanging closets and receive light and air from two sides. The larger bedroom, which numbers a tray closet among its conveniences, is connected with the sleeping porch in the rear.

Wamega is the type of house well adapted to landscape effects. Vines and shrubbery are its natural adornments. To the man who delights in growing things it offers many opportunities to beautify his own home—than which there are few worthier deeds.



-608 in the introduction illustrate ions of this basic plan.

Convenience and Beauty

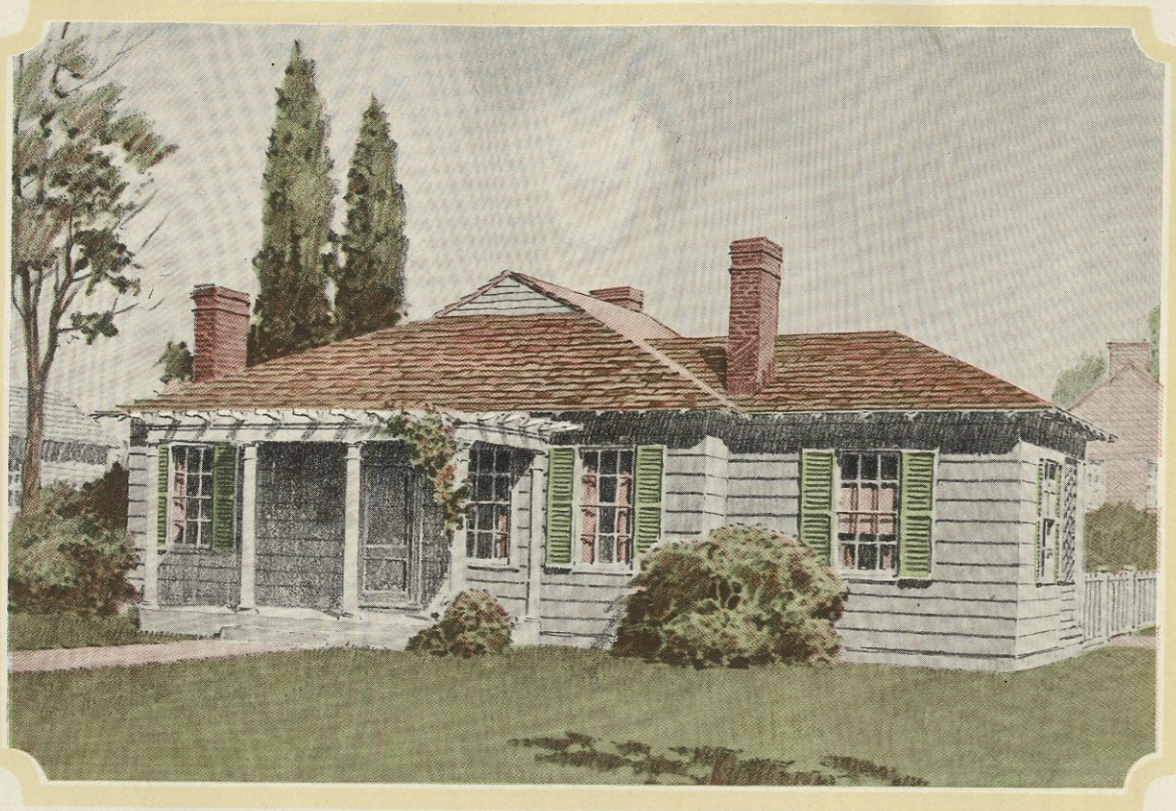
FROM THE PLEASANT LIVING ROOM *with its cosy fireplace, shown in the interior picture, you step out onto either porch through a pair of handsome French doors. Notice the six-panel doors of true proportions. They are particularly appropriate to this interior.*

A built-in china closet in one side of the dining room makes it unnecessary to provide a sideboard or buffet.

The linen closet as shown at the left is conveniently located at the end of the central hall, just a step from the kitchen, bedrooms and bath. Placed as it is, behind a door, all materials stored within are immediately available to the housewife. The threshold and base below the door make it easy for the housewife to keep the hall corners free from dust. In the larger bedroom, a tray case will further reduce housekeeping tasks. The kitchen work table contains a flour bin which is easily removable for cleaning and airing.

C-762. Permanent furniture is a boon to kitchen work. This table utilizes all space from floor to top.

Three Bedrooms, Tw

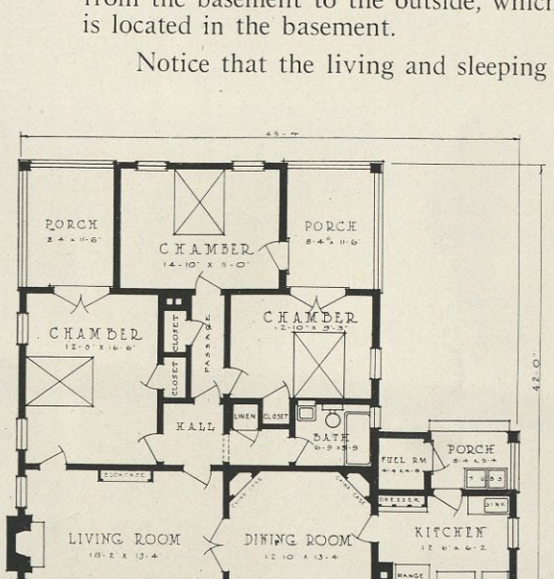


Wickliffe C-6

THREE airy bedrooms and two sleeping porches are among the many comforts this cozy Southern cottage offers to its owner. To the lover of the out-of-doors these porches are bound to have their appeal. On a 60-foot inside corner lot, Wickliffe will have ample space about it for landscape effects. It can face in any direction. When built in a southern latitude the lot with a north frontage is preferred, for then the living rooms are cooler and the bedrooms will have the advantage of breezes from the south; but in the northern latitude an east or south frontage is desirable for these give the most sunshine to the living rooms.

Wickliffe is adaptable to the northern as well as the southern climate because a basement can be added without detracting from the beauty of its exterior and with few and simple changes on the interior. What now serves as a fuel room off the rear porch can be turned into an entry to contain the basement stairway. This will mean direct access from the basement to the outside, which will be very convenient especially if the laundry is located in the basement.

Notice that the living and sleeping portions of this house are placed in two separate



A Compact Home

THE SQUARE LINES *of the main walls speak for economy of construction since they lend themselves most readily to the use of standard lengths of lumber. This feature makes not only for economy of materials but also for economy of the time of the builder. All the plans presented in this portfolio have been carefully developed with this end in view. Economy of construction combined with correct exterior architectural treatment has resulted through the efforts of architects and woodwork manufacturers.*

The placing of windows and door openings has happily produced a perfectly balanced exterior and a well ventilated interior. All bedrooms open onto the central hall as does the bath, a plan arrangement much to be desired. The linen case is conveniently located to all rooms.

Notice that the larger bedroom is favored with a private sleeping porch, where as the other sleeping porch may be used in connection with either of the other two sleeping rooms. Closet space is ample and has been divided so as to meet all requirements.

Exteriors C-609 and C-610 in t
architectural expressio

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vo Sleeping Porches

11—Southern

groups, and that the bath is directly accessible to both. So often we find houses where this advantageous feature is not incorporated.

A vestibule really isn't needed in a home whose front entrance is sheltered by a porch. This is a practical arrangement, for it allows greater space for the living room, which is generally the most used room in the house. Especially is this true when the room is as homelike and inviting as the one in the interior picture in which you see the beautiful fireplace on one side.

Ten-inch siding, shutters and a shingled hip roof that ends in a gable, are the simple exterior features of Wickliffe. The attractive porch with its pergola effect brings out the artistic side of this design and suggests a place for climbing ivy. No matter where the house is built, it will present a cozy, homelike appearance—its faithful symbol of the comforts and pleasures within.

Are not these the characteristics you want your home to have? Of course they are, and in building Wickliffe, be assured that years and years later your home will still possess these same fine qualities.

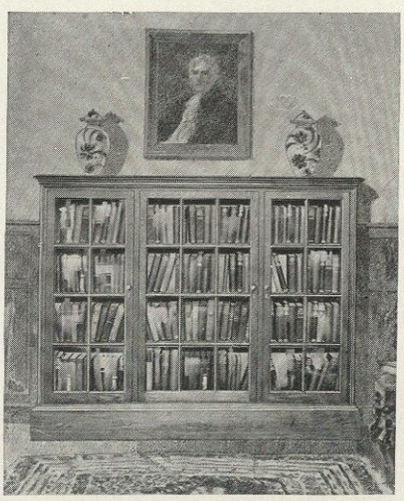
Permanent Furniture

When You Consider interior woodwork forms which portray correct architectural character—character that will stand the test of time—they may truly be called permanent furniture. Curtis construction insures permanency of the material itself and authoritative design insures the home owner that he will never tire of the setting which the permanent furniture provides for his rugs, his pictures and his draperies.

Corner china closets form a fitting background for the daintiest of spreads in this delightful dining room. Seated at the table you can enjoy a splendid outlook through the broad front windows that amply light this room in the daytime.

The French doors afford a good balance with the fireplace, just as the handsome built-in bookcase, C-579, will do with the piano or davenport that you will place opposite to it.

Your furniture can have no better background than the six-panel door of Colonial design so appropriate in the interior of Wickliffe. Its vertical lines harmonize with those of the bookcase illustrated at the right, the mantel and the corner china cases in the dining room. The medicine cabinet, linen case and complete set of kitchen cupboards and tables all add greatly to the joy of living in this well planned home.



C-579. There is wall space in the living room for a stationary bookcase like this one, if you count books among your valuable possessions.

The introduction illustrate other ns of this basic plan.

THE CURTIS WOODWORK

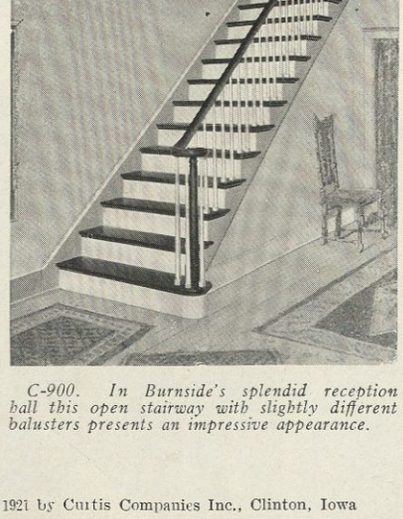
Every Room Has Wi

Burnside 61

TO obtain windows on two sides for every room so that it can have good cross light and ventilation without sacrificing convenience on the interior or beauty on the outside, is a difficult matter, but this has been accomplished in a very successful manner in the layout and design of Burnside. The living room even has windows on three sides, and there are also windows in the downstairs and upstairs halls. This house can be built on a 50-foot lot and either the dining room or living room side can front the street.

There is no wasted hall space in Burnside for the hall serves as a vestibule as well as a hall in that it is shut off from the living and dining rooms so drafts from the front door do not reach these rooms. Stairway C-903 is an architectural detail whose Colonial lines add beauty and interest to the hall.

The living room in Burnside is almost square and so it will be easy to effect a pleasing arrangement of the furniture in it. With light and air from three sides it is sure to be cool in summer and bright and cheery in winter. Note that direct access is possible from the living room to the basement stair, a convenience when tending the furnace.

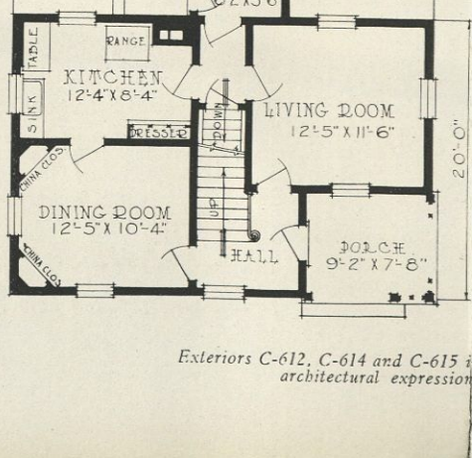


C-900. In Burnside's splendid reception hall this open stairway with slightly different balusters presents an impressive appearance.

UNUSUAL CLOSET SPACE. *"I want big closets in my home." How many housewives have you heard make that very remark?*

Can you imagine the closets and shelves in this house being filled to overflowing?

The arrangement of the first floor plan is economical of steps in that the entry, the kitchen and the living room open into the back hall where the cellar steps are located. Similarly the second floor presents a compact unit, all three bedrooms and bath opening into the hall at the head of the stairs.



Exteriors C-612, C-614 and C-615 i architectural expressio

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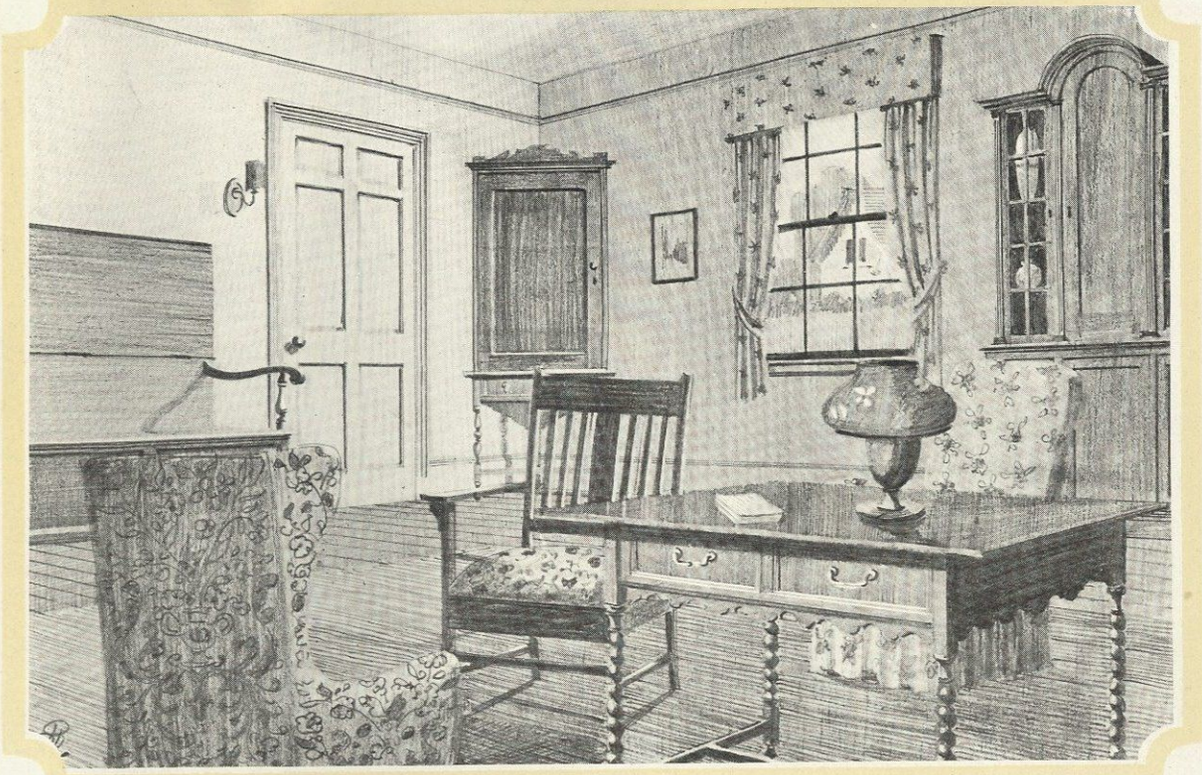
ndows On Two Sides



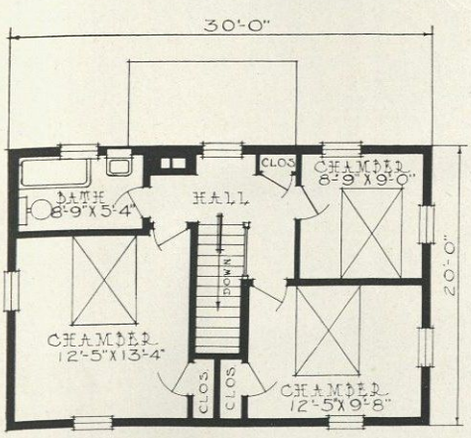
3—Colonial

The spirit of this Colonial home is carried into the dining room by means of the china closets, C-703, built-in in two corners. Between these closets is a window, which with the closets, makes an interesting room end. Another corner suggests a tea wagon.

A kitchen that has windows on two sides is easily ventilated and therefore easily cleared of cooking odors. This kitchen is attractively and conveniently furnished by such permanent furniture as cupboard C-756 and table C-762. The sink and its drain board are beneath one of the windows. The refrigerator is out on the back entry where there are shelves that can hold kitchen supplies. This entry is lighted and ventilated by a window of its own. Notice that it is not necessary when carrying out ashes or laundered clothes from the basement to the outside to go through the kitchen.

A window in the downstairs hall lights the main stairway and another window in the upstairs hall makes a bright second floor hallway.

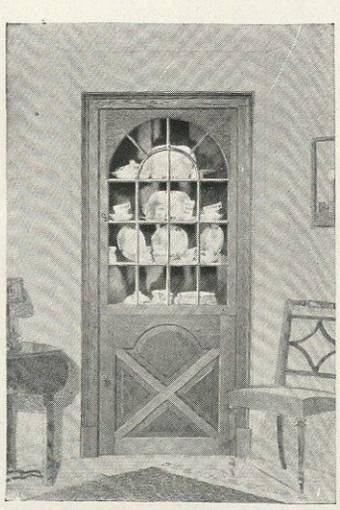
The bathroom is situated directly over the kitchen and the same water pipes that serve the kitchen sink can also supply the bathroom fixtures. Medicine cabinet, C-816, built-in over the wash basin, receives light on its mirror door, from the adjacent window.



n the introduction illustrate other
s of this basic plan.

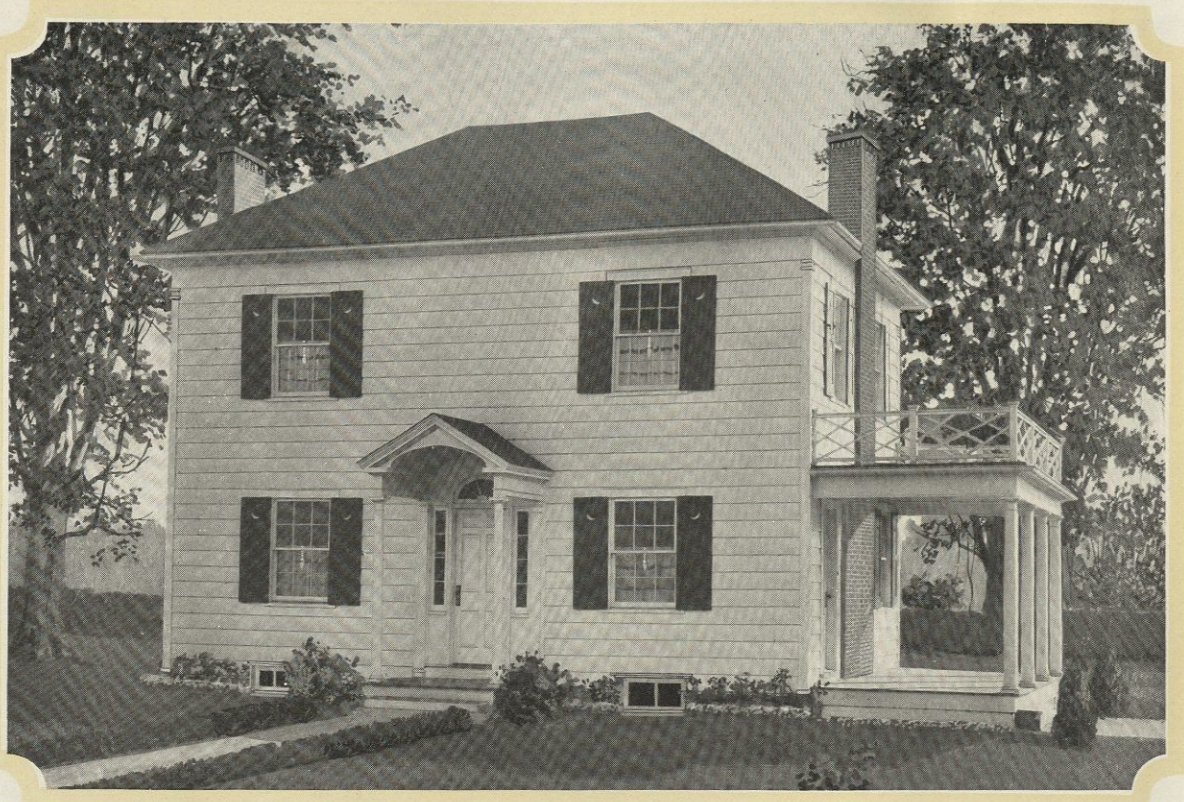
A Pleasing Room End. *Visualize the possibilities of a seat and bookcase combination in the living room opposite the hall door. Imagine the books peeping thru the glass doors asking to be read. Think of the comfort of the cushioned seat so located as to receive ample light from the window above. What a background for the decorator to work upon!*

The dresser and worktable are necessities in the well-organized kitchen. The dresser extends to the ceiling, providing maximum available space for the floor area taken up.



C-703. Never will the housewife in this home lack cupboard space, for two china closets adorn her dining room.

Economy and Practi

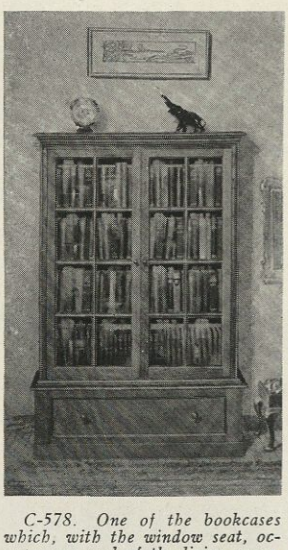


Emury C-61

YOU would find it difficult to plan a six-room house that would be as good to look upon and delightful to live in and still be as economical and practical as Emury. It is economical for only the commonest of materials have been used in the simplest of ways; and it is practical for not an inch of space has been wasted, and every nook and cranny serves a useful purpose.

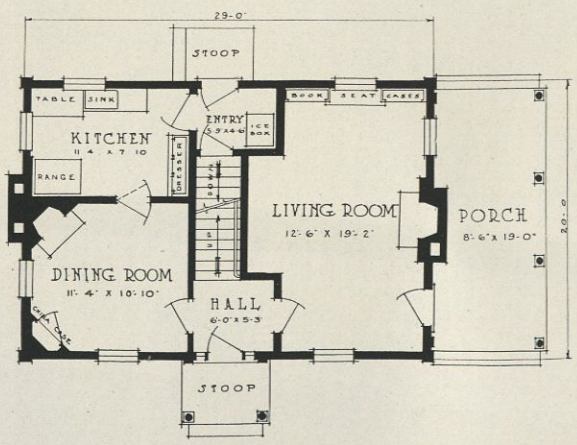
All the daytime rooms in Emury are pleasant and cheery when it is built facing north, south or west; but when the plan is reversed, its most delightful orientation is facing north, south or east. The shallow lot with a 50-foot frontage is a suitable site for the house; and it does not matter whether it be an inside or a corner lot. If built on a corner lot, plan to have the large porch face the side street. The plan may be reversed, if necessary, to accomplish this.

By a small reception hall connecting the living room and dining room with the front entrance and stairway, these rooms are afforded greater privacy and are secured against drafts every time the front door is opened in cold weather. A broad window at the rear looking toward the garden is pleasingly framed by the built-in bookcases and an inviting



C-578. One of the bookcases which, with the window seat, occupy one end of the living room.

THIS TYPICALLY COLONIAL FLOOR PLAN *adapts itself particularly well to the use of standard lengths of lumber. Its rooms lie within a rectangle making possible maximum cross ventilation of rooms as well as minimizing unused floor space. Notice the second floor bedrooms. The stairways centrally located are economical.*



Exteriors C-617 and C-618 in architectural expressio

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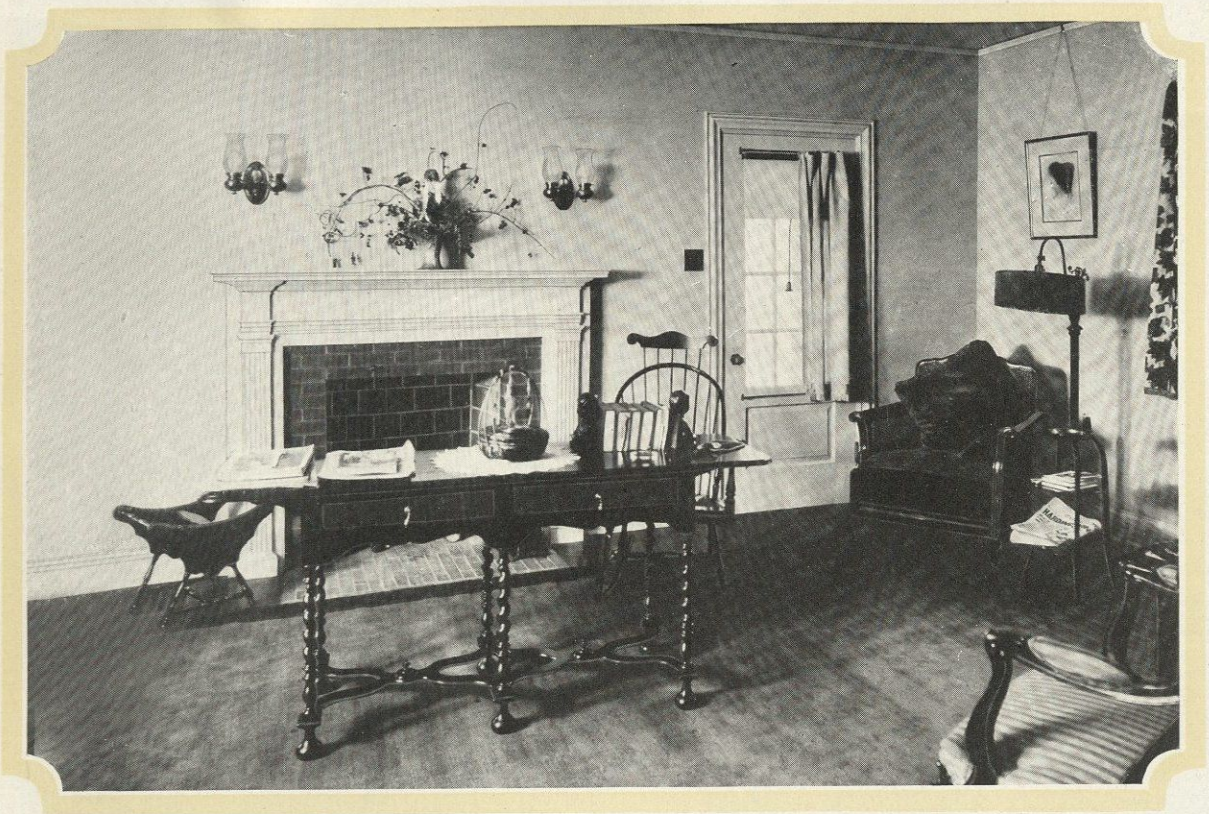
cability in Six Rooms



16—Colonial

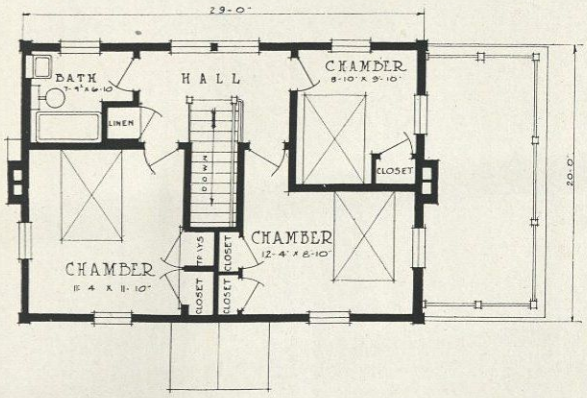
window seat. With the piano appropriately placed in the alcove opposite the living room fireplace, it will be sure to receive good light in the daytime from all three windows and the glazed door that opens onto the porch. Placing this roomy porch at the side rather than at the front of the house gives it a privacy that vines and flower boxes are free to accentuate, as the owner pleases.

You can see on the plan of the second floor how the upper portion of the staircase is left open with just a railing at the side. This permits better light for the stairway from the double windows that light the upper hall and makes the linen closet near the bathroom more usable in the daytime.

Good balance and excellent proportion of its shuttered windows and interesting Colonial entrance and a broad, livable porch at one side, are attractive features of the exterior of Emury. It is a design beautiful in its simple lines and sparse ornamentation—a home to be proud of.

If you fancy Colonial architecture, you will find this charming house worthy of your most careful study, and one you will never grow tired of living in.

HANDSOME FIREPLACES *with Colonial mantels in both dining room and living room, the room end combination of bookcases and seat in the living room, the cupboard and worktable in the kitchen, and tray cases in the bedroom, make for added beauty and utility in the interior of Emury. All these items are designed in accord with the best of Colonial tradition.*



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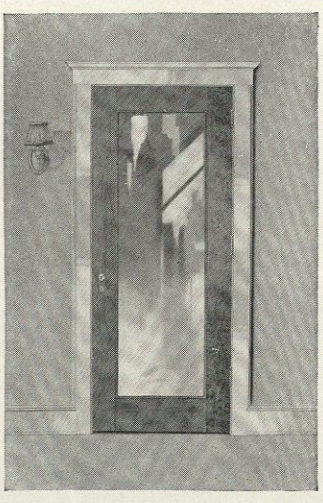
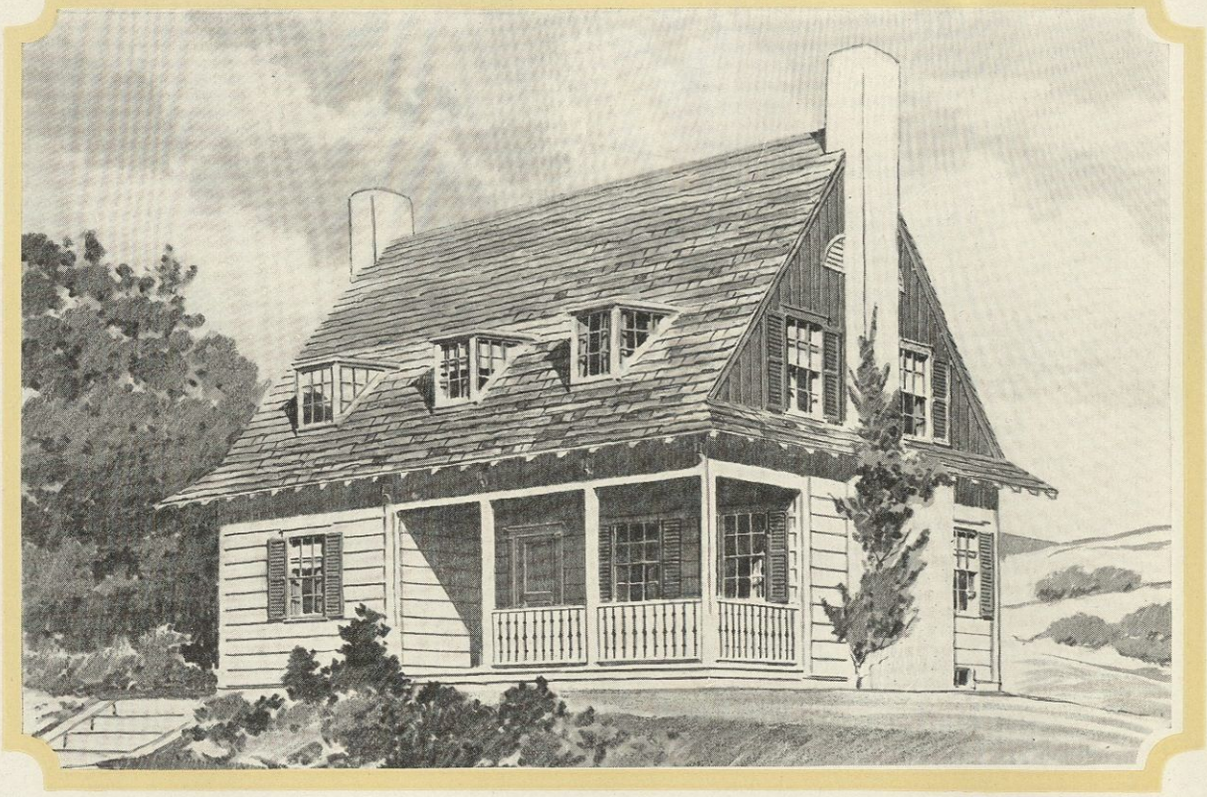


C-311. You can have a useful mirror door like this in any of the bedrooms. It does not take up any room.

An Excellent Plan ar

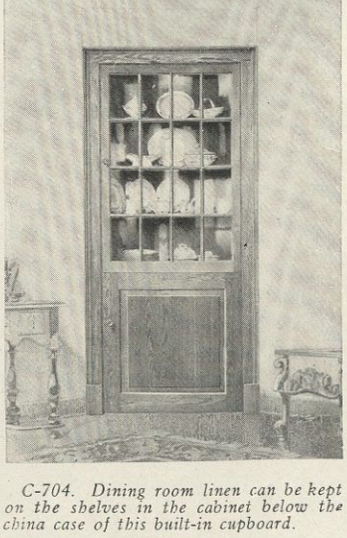


Torrill C-62

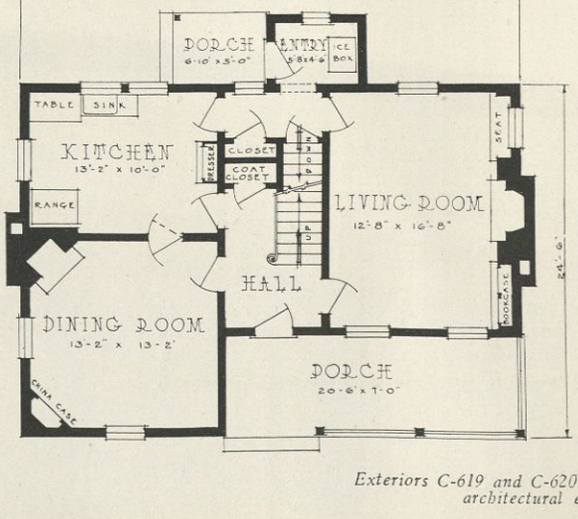
ALL the comforts and joys of a real home are combined within this attractive Western design. Everything that makes home life pleasant seems to have been incorporated in this layout of rooms, for there is convenience not only in the relation of one room to another but in the interior appointments. Built-in furniture is included where possible, with the result that the rooms, even though unfurnished, have a homelike appearance.

Torrill should be built on a 45- or 50-foot lot to make its best appearance. It can be either an inside or a corner lot, for this house is handsome from any approach. The lot can face in any direction but north, since that orientation would necessarily cut off much light from the living room.

On entering Torrill you are impressed with the dignity of the open stairway that handsomely graces the reception hall, from which you pass on to the pleasant living room with its cozy fireplace. The interior shows a part of this room. At one side of the fireplace stands a well designed bookcase and beneath the window at the other side, a built-in seat presents an inviting appearance.



C-704. Dining room linen can be kept on the shelves in the cabinet below the china case of this built-in cupboard.



Exteriors C-619 and C-620 in the architectural expressio

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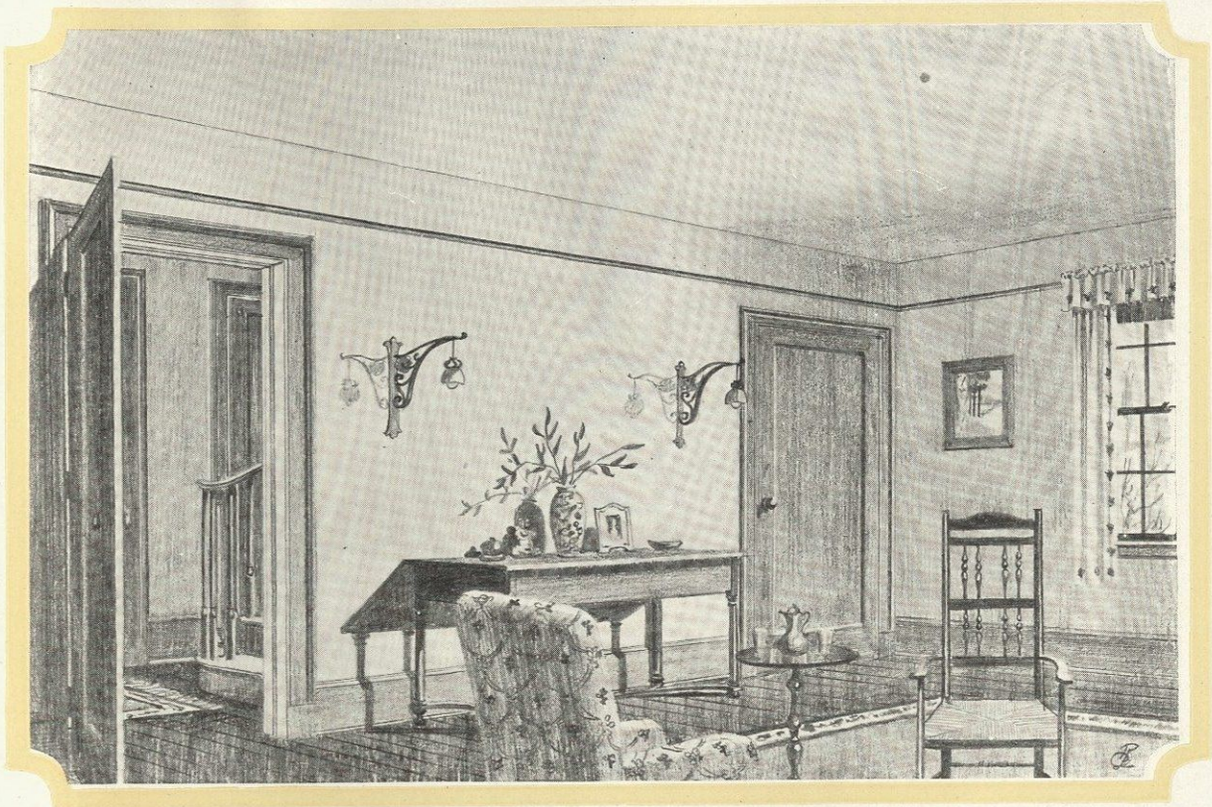
nd Exterior Beautiful



1—Western

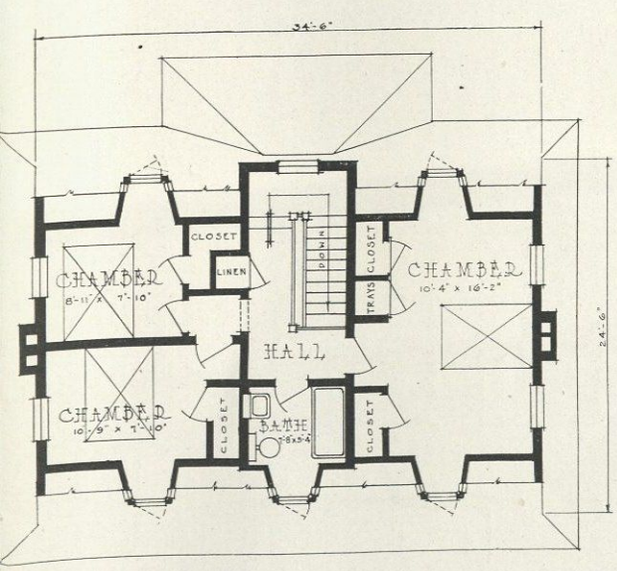
In the dining room, the fireplace in one corner is nicely balanced by the dainty china closet built-in in the opposite corner. Another corner with good wall space can be appropriated for a movable buffet or serving table.

A kitchen, equipped with windows on two sides as this one is, will be well ventilated. All its fixtures are certain to receive good light in the daytime.

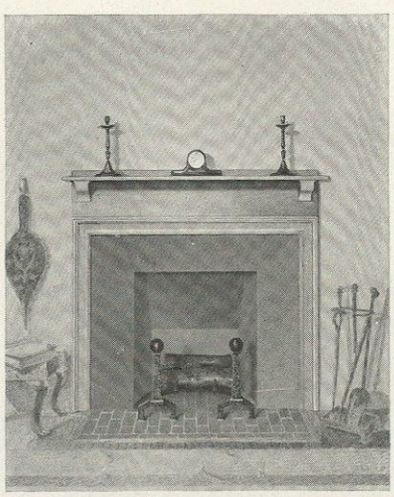
On the second floor a central daylight hall brings all bedrooms within easy reach of each other and the bathroom. The latter is lighted by the middle dormer and has its fixtures so arranged as to require a minimum of space.

The large chamber, which extends the full length of the house, has just double the closet space and windows found in either of the other chambers and also a tray closet that is a big convenience in itself.

In the basement, both heater room and coal bin are conveniently located beneath the living room. A storage is beneath the kitchen and next to it beneath the dining room is a drying room and laundry.

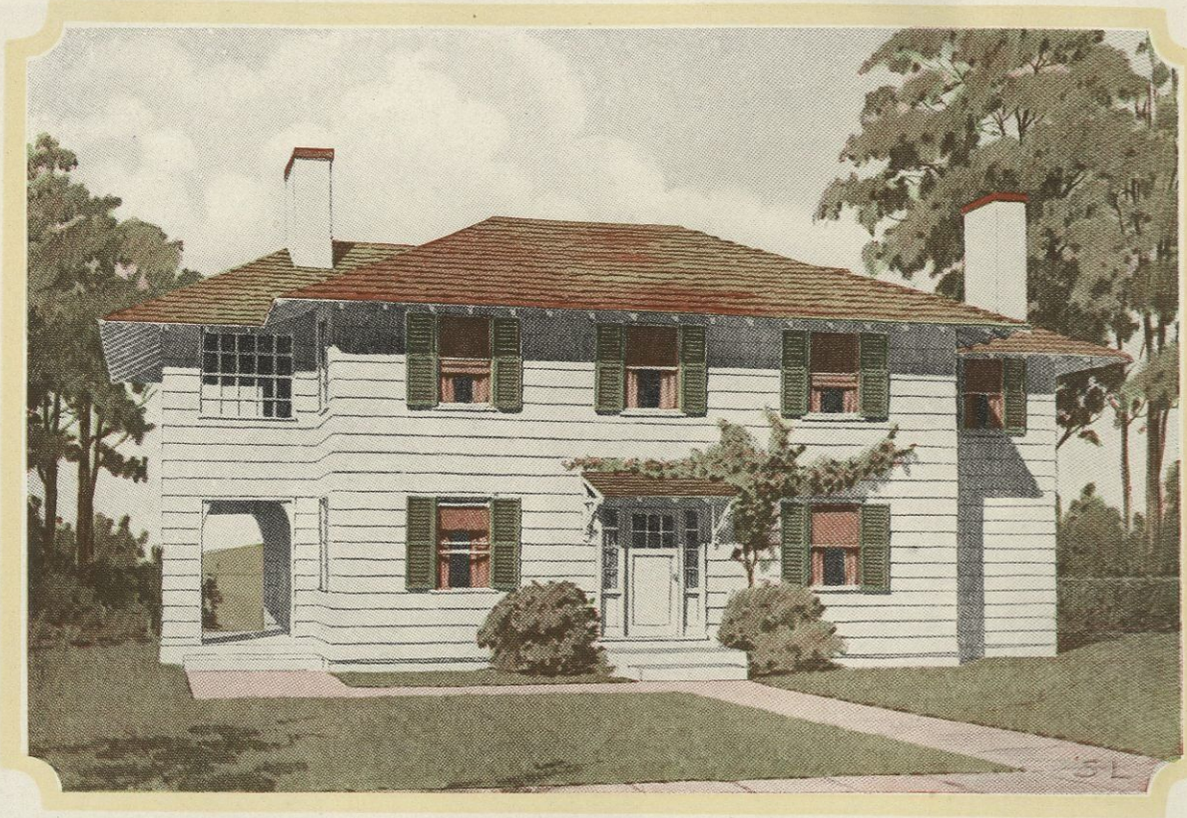


ntroduction illustrate other ns of this basic plan.



C-621. Have you ever known the luxury of a fireplace in the dining room? This is the mantel used in the dining room of Torrill

Well Planned with T

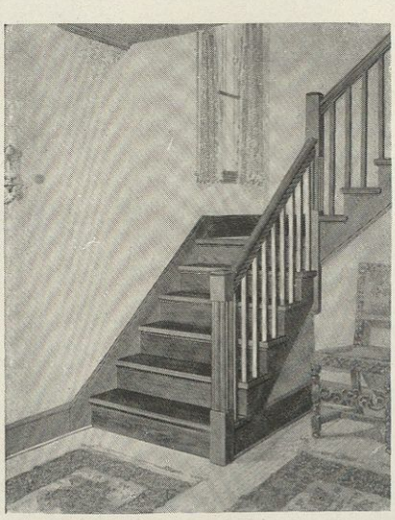


Overton C-62

ALTHOUGH Overton is a simple, square type design, by the mere addition of a service wing on one side and a porch with sleeping room above on the other side, it has been given a very distinctive appearance. A broad overhanging roof, shutters against clapboard walls, a very artistic although formal entrance, and many smaller and interesting details compose the striking exterior of Overton. With six comfortable rooms including three large pleasant bedrooms, all well arranged on two floors and incorporating many conveniences, this handsome design seems to be well fitted for any city or country site.

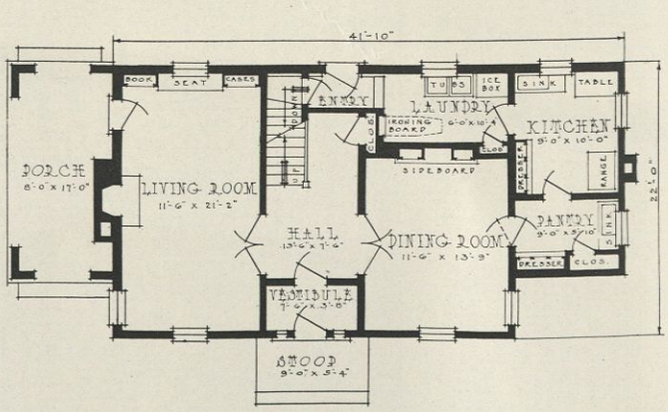
From the floor plan you get some idea of the roomy comfortableness of the well-lighted living room that runs the full depth of the house. The brick-lined fireplace, the cozy window seat beneath the rear window, and the two handsome built-in bookcases—all permanent features of this room—minimize greatly the furniture required to make it livable, inviting and homelike. A glazed door opens onto the porch which is the summer addition to the living room and can be screened to be made more comfortable.

In going from the living room to the dining room you must pass through the wide re-



C-913. This well-made stairway holds a conspicuous place in Overton. Its balusters and newel make an interesting design.

BESIDES THE VESTIBULE, *which no well-designed home should lack if space permits, Overton has a central hall, which gives direct access to the stairs. A coat closet for outdoor wraps finds its place here. Note the generosity of the space provided for the service portion of the house. The living room extends across one end of the house, and receives light from three directions.*



Exteriors C-625, C-626, C-627 and other architectural expre

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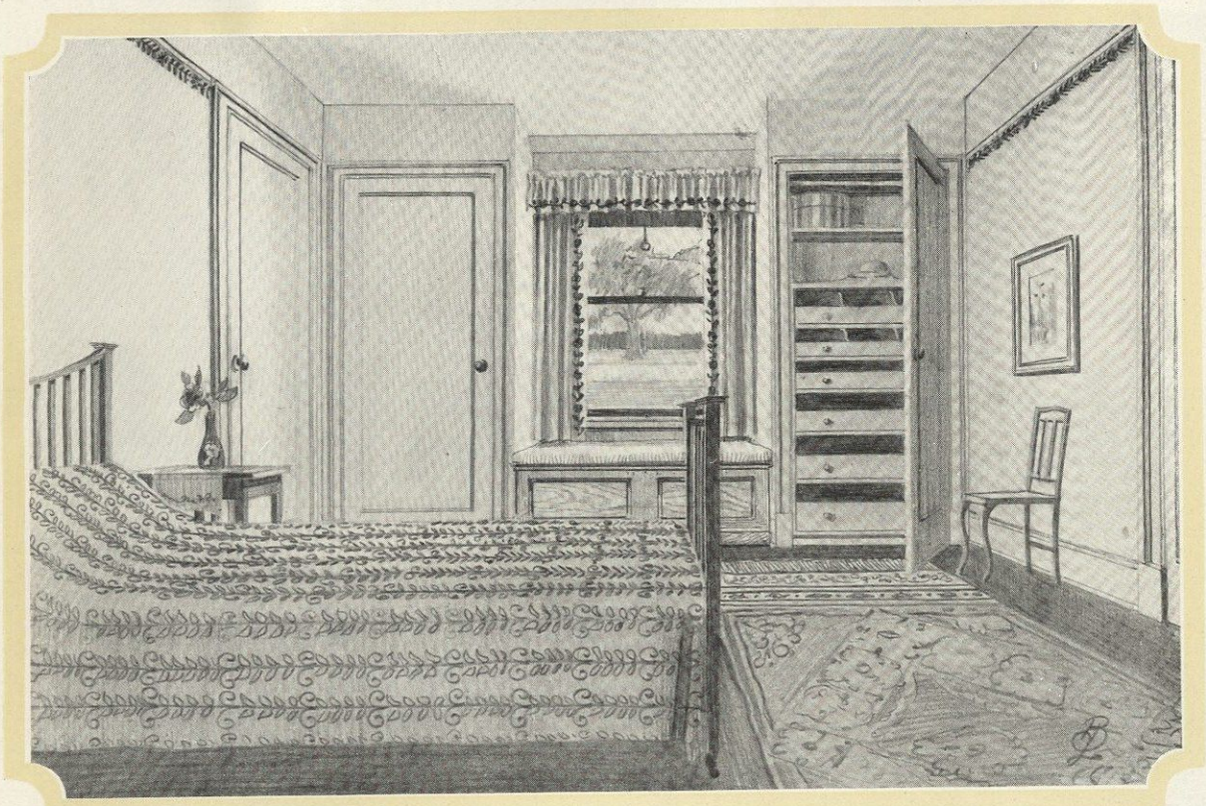
hree Large Bedrooms



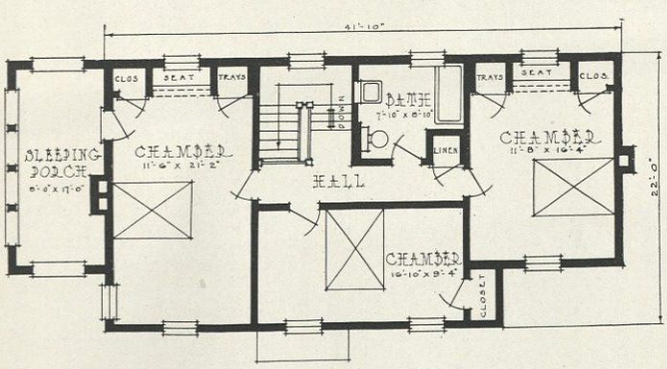
29—Western

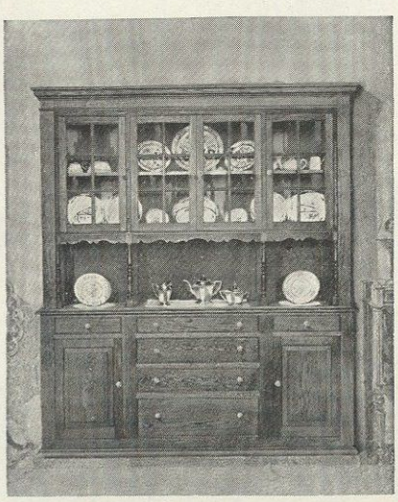
ception hall with handsome open stairway at one end. The hall is well lighted and because it has French doors connecting it with the dining room and living room, its spaciousness can be added to either of these rooms when occasion demands.

In this kitchen no effort has been spared in placing each item of kitchen equipment where it will be of the most service and still receive the best of light. Because there will be plenty of room in the laundry, with its permanent tubs and ironing board, for the refrigerator, no space is required for this item in the kitchen. The handy pantry intervening between dining room and kitchen is well equipped with cupboards and a sink beneath its window. Here a great deal of the kitchen work can be done which will lessen the confusion in the kitchen on busy days.

Because of the grade entrance it will not be necessary to go through the house in going to the basement from the outside. Direct access to the basement from the laundry makes it possible for the housewife to hang the clothes in the drying room in the basement when it is disagreeable out of doors. Besides the ample storage room and a furnace room provided in this basement you will find a well-lighted fruit room.

BUILT-IN SEAT C-595 *is used in Overton both downstairs in the living room, between bookcases* C-586, *and in two second floor chambers. In either place it will find use not only as a seat, but as a storage place for various things. Built-in ironing board C-770 has so many advantages that once used you will never do without one.*

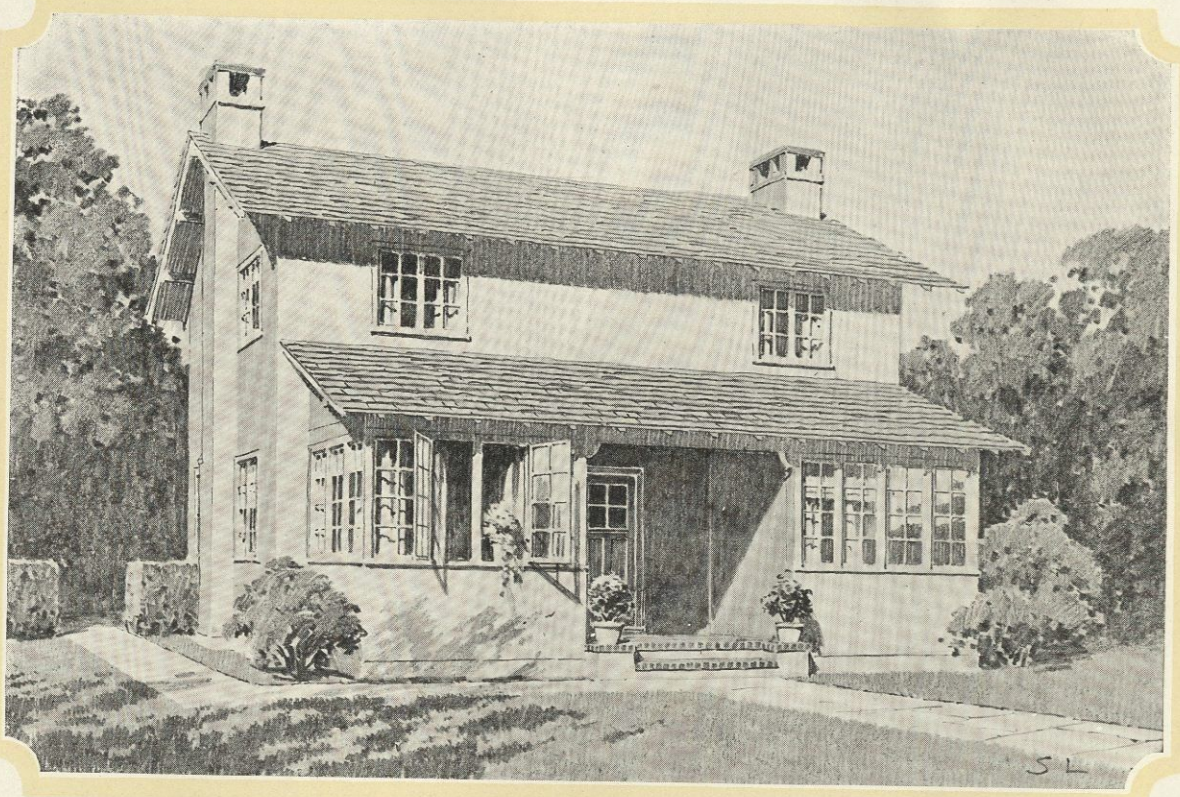




C-713. Is there a housewife who could not well be proud of this pretty sideboard in her home? Its great utility increases its interest.

C-628 in the introduction illustrate
ssions of this basic plan.

Luxurious Outdoor L

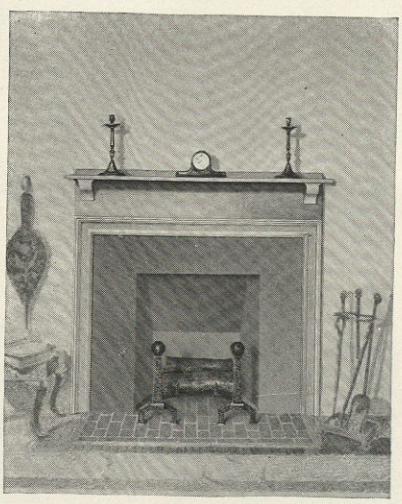


Thedford C-

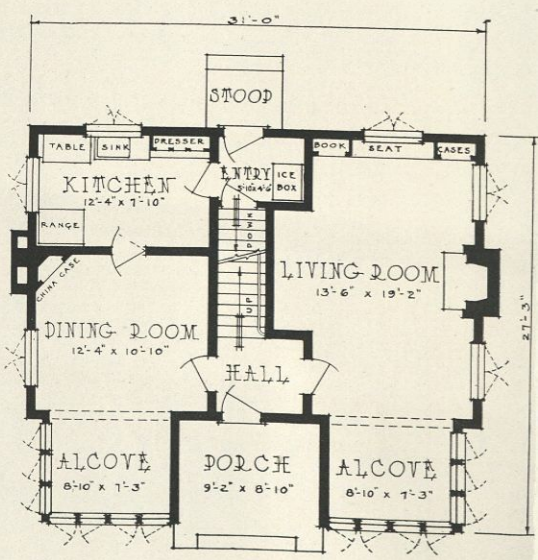
FOR the family who are fond of outdoor life, who revel in the joy of a sunny day, Thedford has many charms. Chief among these are the outdoor living and dining rooms whose many windows you see in the exterior picture and whose roominess is indicated on the floor plan. As a cool retreat on warm days and a sunny place for the children to play in on wintry days, this outdoor addition to the living room fully serves its purpose.

Of course, these outdoor rooms will govern, to a certain extent, the orientation of your home, for nothing short of an unusually wonderful vista could make you put them on other than the sunny side of the house. For this reason a 40-foot lot with an east or south frontage is the site on which Thedford can be most charmingly built. If on laying out your plans for a certain location you find the dining room and alcove where you prefer to have your living room and its alcove, this change can easily be made by reversing the entire plan.

By a small reception hall connecting the living room and dining room with the front entrance and stairway, these rooms are afforded greater privacy and are secured



C-621. This handsome fireplace on one side of the living room between French doors, is the key to a cozy arrangement of furniture.



Exteriors C-622 and C-623 in t architectural expressio

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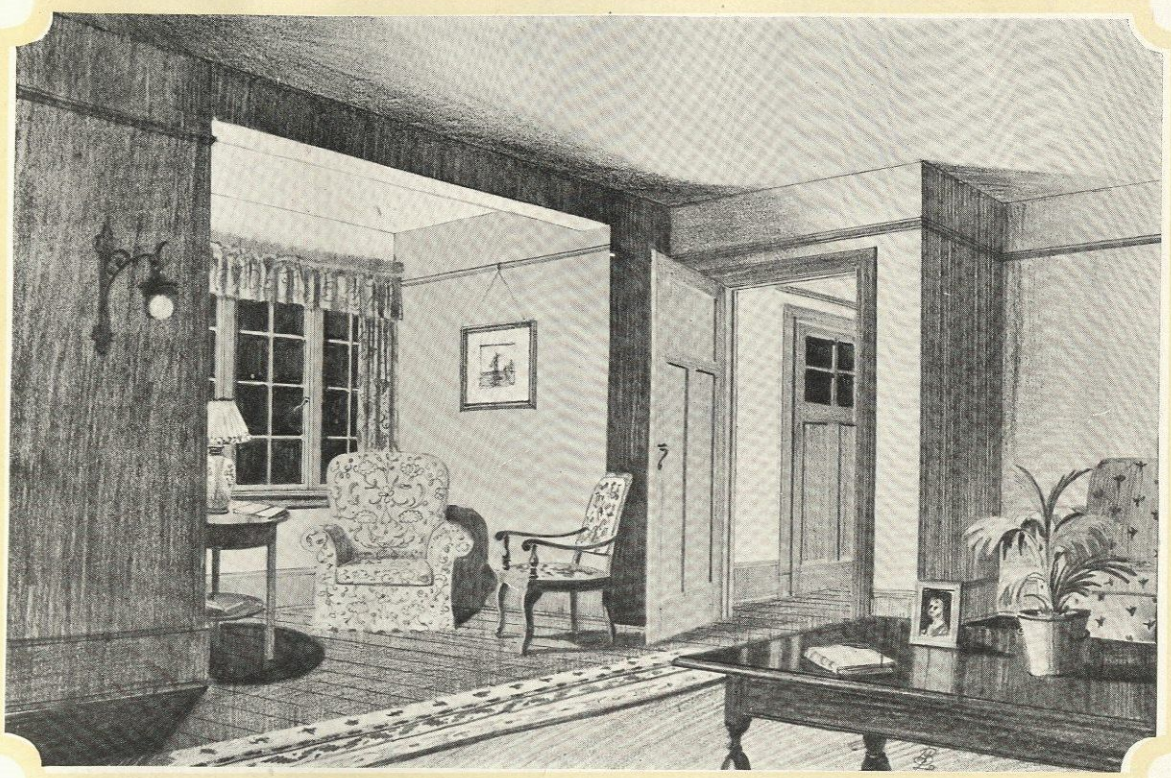
iving and Dining Room



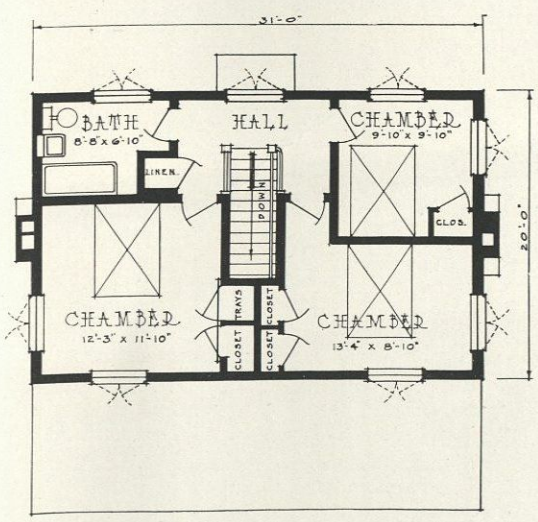
624—Western

against severe drafts every time the front door is opened in cold or windy weather.

With the handsome built-in china cabinet beautifying one corner of the dining room there will still be abundant space for a movable buffet or sideboard, should one be desired. Only the simplest of furnishings are required to make this room inviting.

You can see on the plan of the second floor how the upper portion of the staircase is left open with just a railing at each side. This permits better light for the stairway from the double windows that light the upper hall and make the linen closet near the bathroom useful in the daytime. Of the three bedrooms, not one has been neglected as to ventilation and closets. The smallest bedroom has a hanging closet and the other two have ample closet space. All are convenient to the bathroom, in the rear corner of the house which has its several fixtures comfortably arranged, and is lighted by a broad window.

Stucco is a suitable material for this house. Broad overhanging shingled roof and casement sash help to make an attractive exterior for Thedford. You may be sure that this six-room Western home can be built most anywhere and will do full justice to its owner. It is a home of which anyone may be proud.



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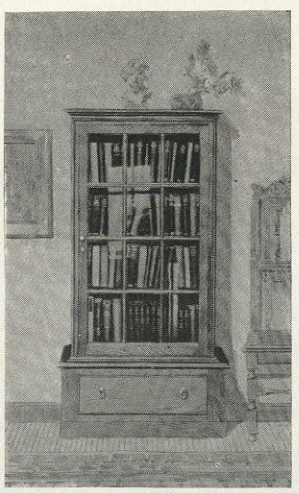
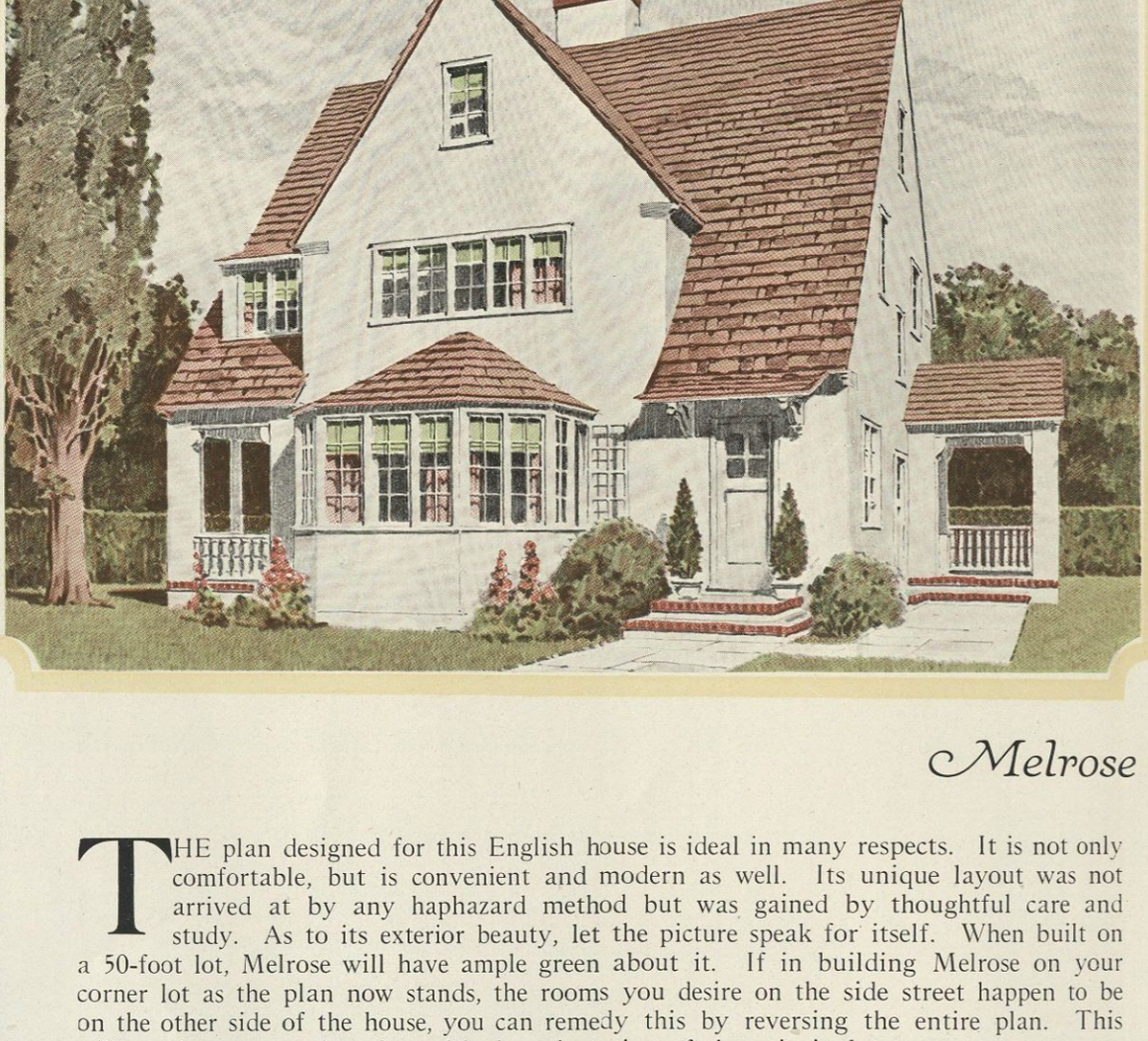


C-586. One of the bookcases, which with the window seat pleasingly frame the casement windows.

A Perfect Plan With



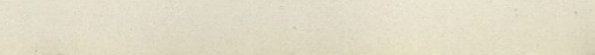
Melrose C-

THE plan designed for this English house is ideal in many respects. It is not only comfortable, but is convenient and modern as well. Its unique layout was not arrived at by any haphazard method but was gained by thoughtful care and study. As to its exterior beauty, let the picture speak for itself. When built on a 50-foot lot, Melrose will have ample green about it. If in building Melrose on your corner lot as the plan now stands, the rooms you desire on the side street happen to be on the other side of the house, you can remedy this by reversing the entire plan. This will not in any way interfere with the orientation of the principal rooms.

A daylight vestibule keeps the cold from the main hall. The latter affords direct access to the kitchen, to the second floor by way of the handsome open stairway, and to the spacious living room you see in the picture. Opposite the solarium end of this room, the fireplace is set in an alcove where seats can be built to form a cozy ingle nook.

A cased opening connects living room and dining room, giving to each of these rooms an appearance of greater size. Double casement sash on two sides together with French

C-620. In the living room the fireplace is set in an alcove, making a cozy ingle nook. This mantel makes it all the more charming.



Exteriors C-633 and C-635 in architectural expressions

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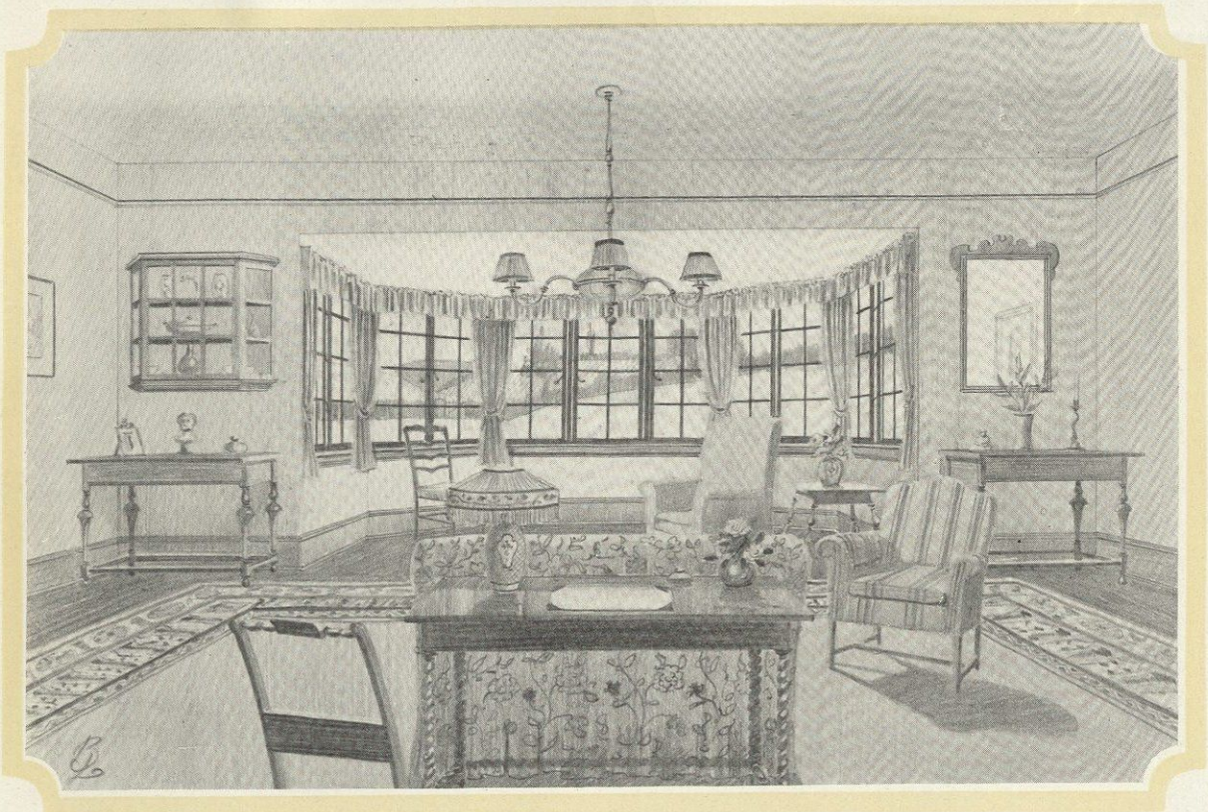
a Beautiful Exterior



634—English

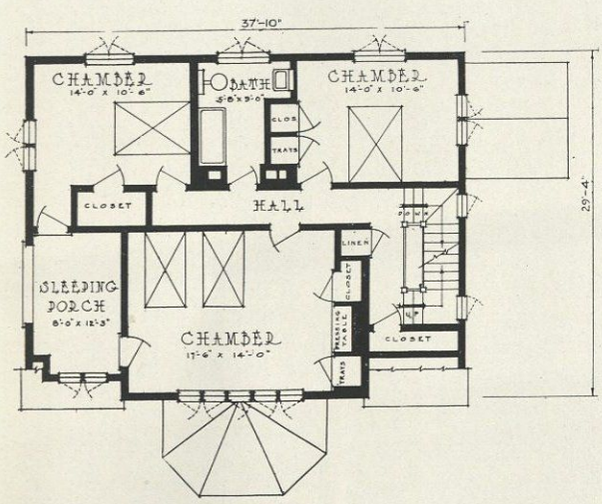
doors afford abundant light for the table and other furnishings that can be appropriately placed in this room. Two good corners are available for the sideboard or buffet absolutely required here. In either place it would receive good light in the daytime.

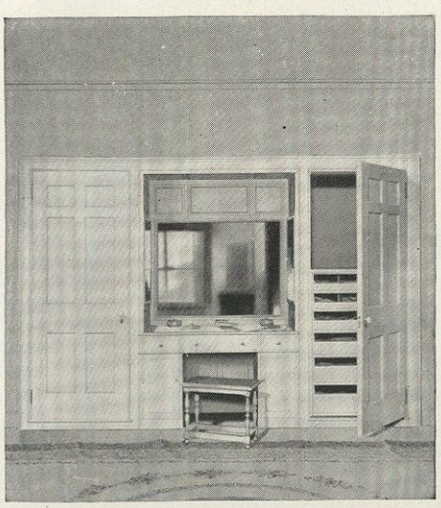
A well equipped butler's pantry between kitchen and dining room adds much to the working space and conveniences of the kitchen, and keeps cooking odors away from the dining room.

All three bedrooms have excellent ventilation from many windows and two of them connect directly with the sleeping porch. Closet space is amply provided, both hanging closets and tray closets.

A linen closet and another large storage closet are built-in in the hall. The stair must not be overlooked, for in its connection to all upstairs rooms it gives good service. The bathroom, you will notice, is handy to all bedrooms, and is lighted by a double casement.

You will like Melrose with its six good rooms, pantry and ample sleeping porch, and its interesting and attractive exterior.

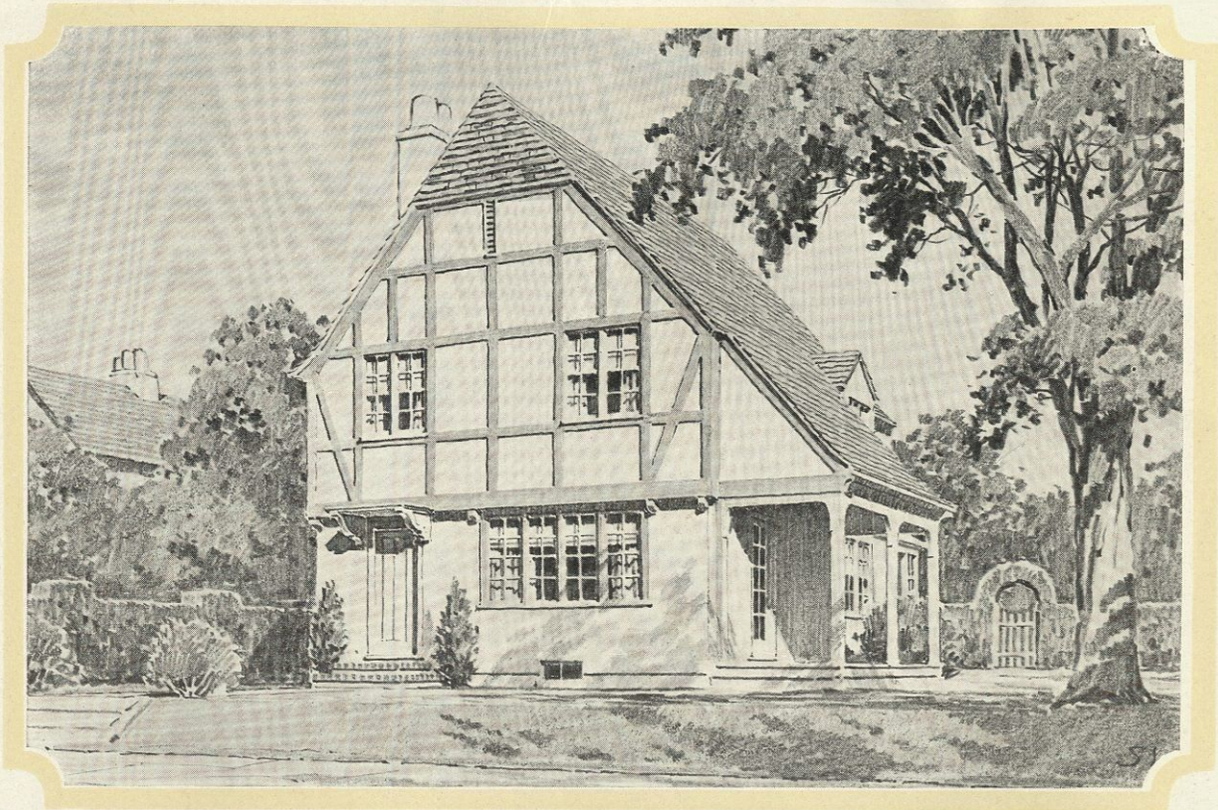




C-810. With this dressing table and tray case built-in, floor space is left in your bedroom for chairs. You can make an upstairs living room of it.

the introduction illustrate other of this basic plan.

A Roomy House f



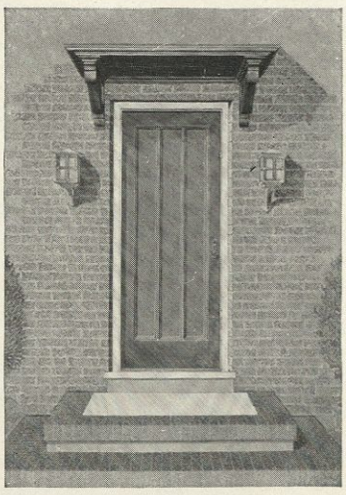
Manners C-

THIS is the kind of a house that can be built on the side of a hill where the lot slopes from the front toward the rear, especially if there is a view you would like to take advantage of with a rear porch like that planned for Manners.

Manners can be built on the 40-foot lot that faces west or north, for then its porches will be on the sunny sides of the house and will not cut off light from the principal rooms. However, by reversing the entire plan this design will be just as pleasant built on a lot with an east or north frontage. It is a design that is suited to the corner lot as well as the inside; all that is necessary is that its porches be given proper orientation.

A formal entrance welcomes you to the stately hall with open stairway, C-913, where you find direct access to the living room through French doors, C-321, which you get a glimpse of in the picture, and to the kitchen through the side entry. Just imagine how bright and cheerful this living room must be with four casement sash permitting a view from the front of the house. French doors connect it with the dining room and a glazed single door opening onto the side porch or outdoor living room.

Notice the compact arrangement of this kitchen in which all fixtures are conveniently

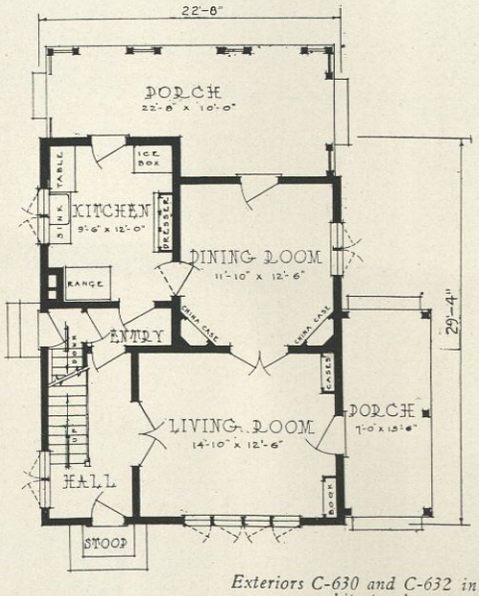


C-110. Friends will get a good first impression of your English home from the handsome front entrance.

The Plan

DIRECT COMMUNICATION *to the kitchen from the front, grade, and rear entrances of this house is an outstanding feature of this plan. The main entrance to the home opening as it does into a hall is an advantage not to be held lightly.*

Ample porches will appeal to the lover of the out-of-doors, and to the man interested in the results of his own gardening the rear porch will promise hours of pleasurable contentment. It may be easily screened, an airy dining porch resulting.



Exteriors C-630 and C-632 in the architectural expression

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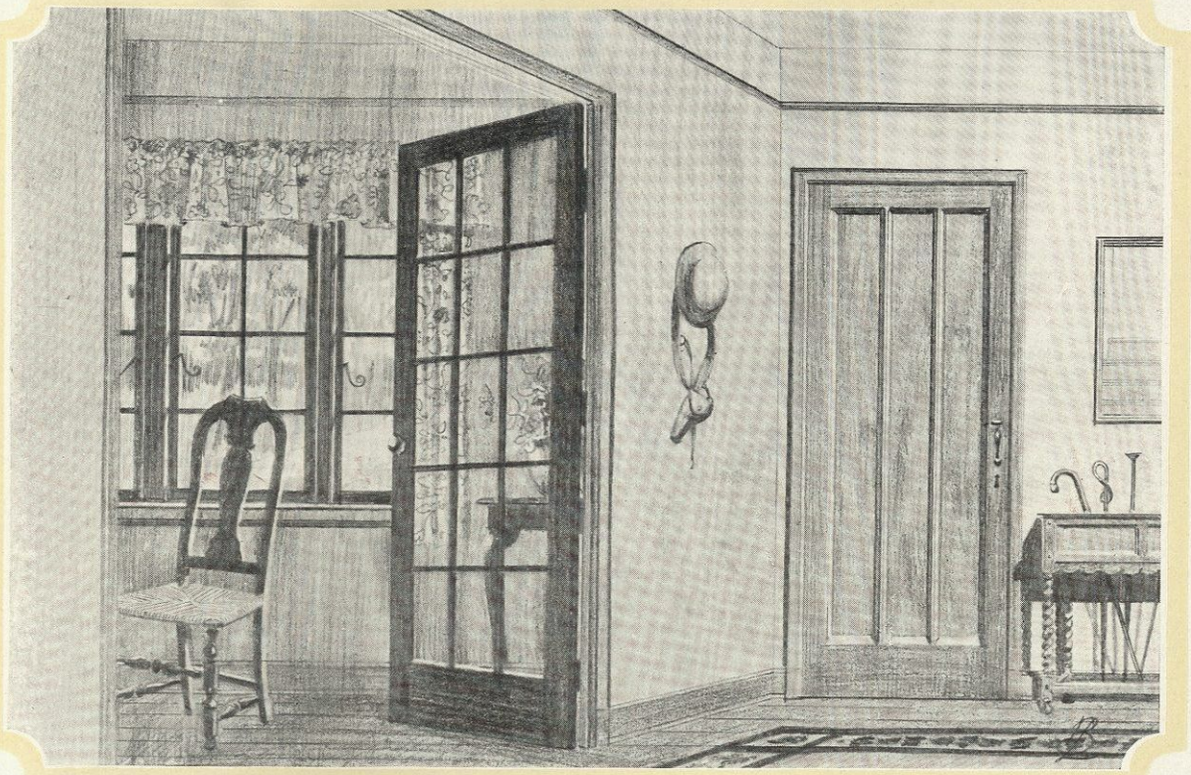
or the Hillside Lot

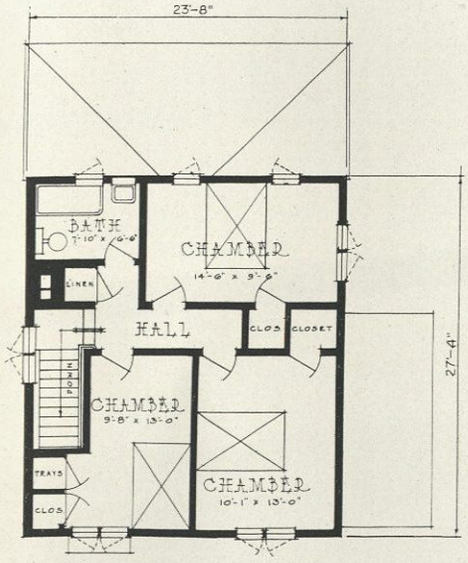


-631—English

near to each other and there is still plenty of room at one end for the refrigerator, far from the heat of the range, and for the stationary tubs, should the housewife prefer to have the washing done in the kitchen. Shelves utilize an otherwise wasted corner in the entry. The rear porch, accessible to both kitchen and dining room, can be easily screened as one or two rooms. A charming open-air dining room would result.

With the stairway at one side rather than in the center of the house, a convenient arrangement of the three bedrooms and the bathroom is effected on the second floor. Near to the bathroom at the head of the stairs is the built-in linen case, C-813, that is to be used in connection with all the second floor rooms. Interesting features about the bedrooms are their closets, casement windows and the abundant wall space for articles of bedroom furniture.

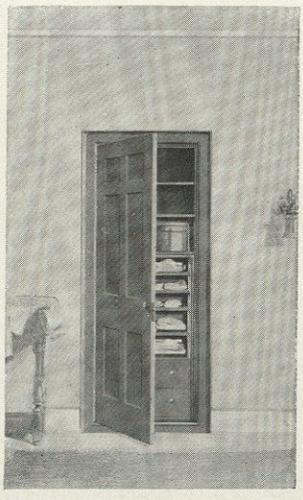
Every bit of space beneath the living room and hall except that required for the staircase, is included in the drying room in the basement. With this room it is unnecessary for the clothes to be hung outside on cold days. Stationary tubs can be installed here producing a convenient workable laundr y unit.



e introduction illustrate other s of this basic plan.

Convenience

ALTHOUGH THE COST *of the doors, windows, trim and built-in permanent furniture for the average home makes up but 10 to 15 per cent of the cost, can anyone definitely say how much these built-in conveniences do toward making the home more livable, more beautiful and more convenient? Useful corner china cases of English design add charm to the dining room. Bookcases suggest a home-like arrangement of furnishings of the living room. Kitchen fixtures are commodious and convenient.*



C-813. Open end trays in the linen closet enable you to see just where each towel or sheet is placed.

English Comfort in S

Marcot C-

NO Englishman would think of sacrificing comfort within his home for exterior beauty, yet in nearly every instance he builds a home whose good lines and well balanced openings present a pleasing exterior, and above all he attains a striking individuality. Such a design is Marcot, this seven-room English home built for comfort.

As the plan now stands it can be built on the 50-foot lot with a south, north or west frontage, but when built on a lot with an east frontage the plan is much better reversed. With these considerations in mind it can be built on any inside or corner lot. When built on a corner it is well for convenience's sake to have the side porch facing the side street, reversing the plan if necessary to obtain this arrangement, for then direct access to either living room or kitchen is possible from the side street.

Through the formal entrance of Marcot, you come first into the small vestibule, where there is a closet for outdoor wraps. Beyond this is the main hall with French doors on two sides and an open stairway, C-912, gracing its farther end—just the kind of hall you would imagine every English home would have.

C-912. In the design of the stairway, particularly in the newel, rail and balusters, you find the keynote to the beauty of the interior.

THE PLAN. *The second floor central hall brings all four bedrooms, and a well lighted bath within easy access to the linen closet. There is little choice between the two large bedrooms. An unusually well lighted interior results from careful planning.*

Exteriors C-702, C-703, C-705 and C-70 architectural expressions

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Seven Splendid Rooms

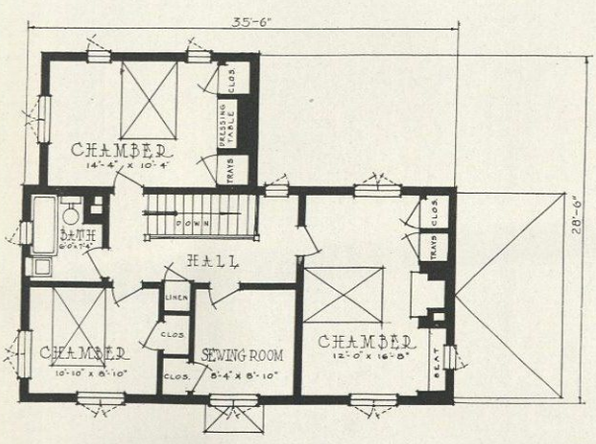
704—English

Although the formal beauty of the hallway gave no hint, you are not at all surprised at the homelike charm of the living room with its cozy fireplace and the casement sash that greet you. A broad window seat in combination with two permanent bookcases effectively fills one entire end of this livable room. On the other side of the hall the French doors, C-321, open into the cheery dining room you see in the interior picture, which is well lighted in the daytime by triple casement sash on two sides.

No housewife could resist nosing about the dainty kitchen where worktable, dresser near the dining room door, kitchen dressers and all other necessary equipment are arranged in the best of order, not alone in their convenience to each other, but where they will receive the best light in the daytime. With the refrigerator in the rear entry, it will be easy to ice and will take up no space in the kitchen.

The basement can be entered either directly from the outside or from the inside near the kitchen. A drying room and a combined heater room and coal bin share equally the cellar beneath the main part of the house, leaving the space beyond the furnace room beneath the kitchen to serve as a storage place.

ORDERLY CLOSETS. *A dressing table tray case and hanging closet combination illustrated elsewhere in this portfolio, is located in the rear bedroom. The convenience of this combination insures orderly and well organized closets.*



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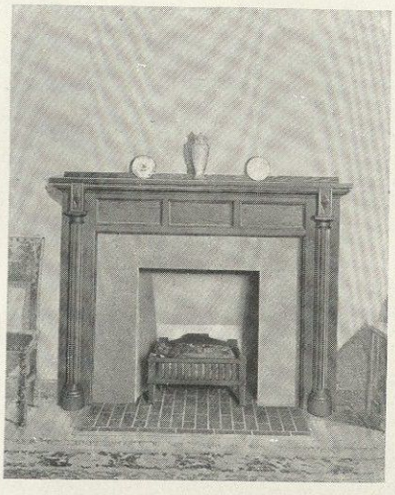
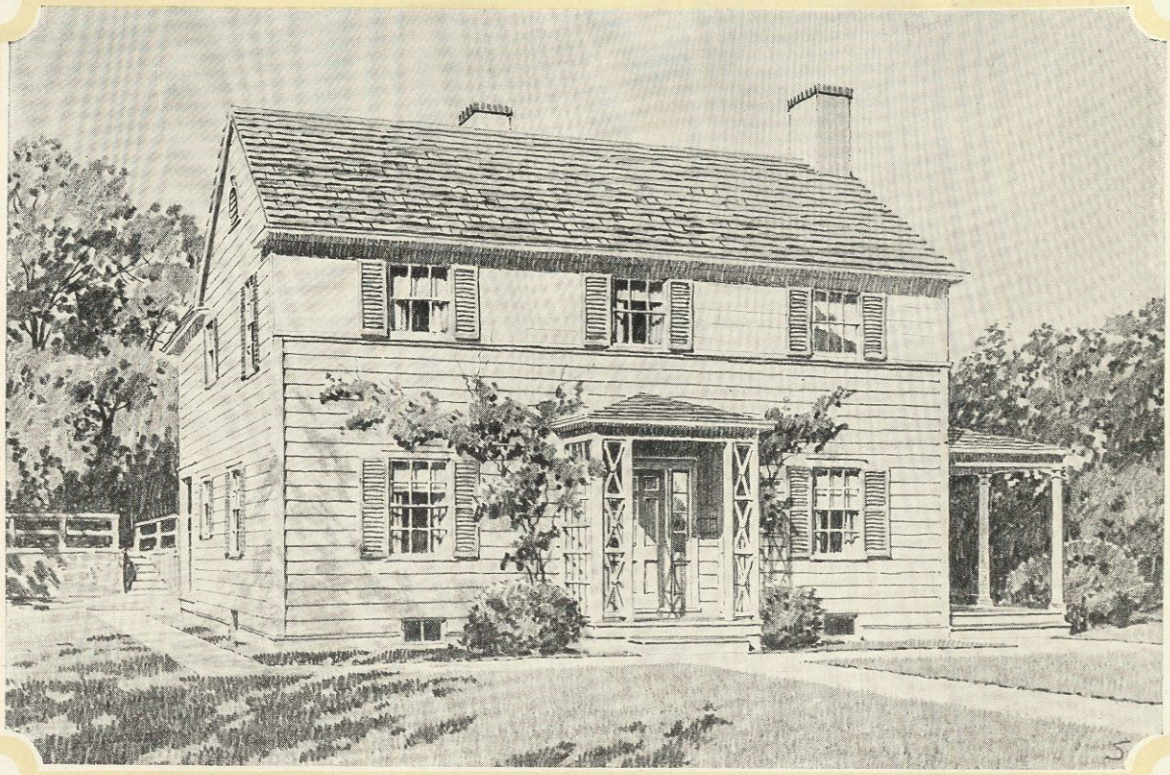


C-620. The massive lines of English woodwork are nowhere more attractive than in the design of the mantel used in the living room.

1920 CURTIS WOODWORK

Beauty and Dignity



Hampstead C-

HAMPSTEAD'S exterior is designed along simple Colonial lines, free from ornamentation and the heavy roofs that disfigure so many present day houses. It is characteristic of the charm and dignity of the spacious rooms within.

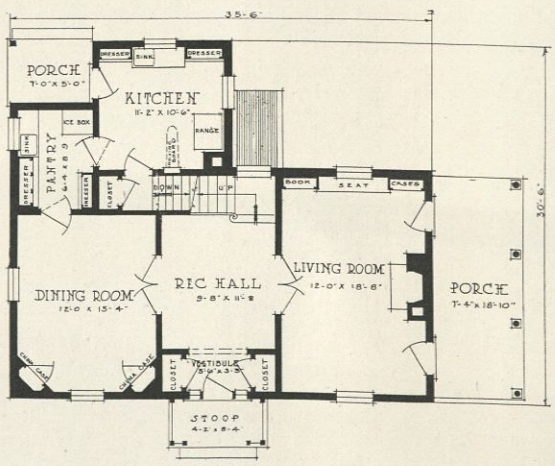
This home can be built on a 50-foot lot facing north, south or east, and in any one of these positions the rooms within will be pleasantly lighted. Because this design has a pleasing facade on the front or either side, it is as well fitted for the corner lot as it is for the lot on the inside.

Two ample closets are provided in the well lighted vestibule that shares its brightness with the main hall where an open stairway, C-902, an attractive design, fits comfortably into the far end. The view in the interior picture is what you see when you enter the living room through French doors, C-321, from the main hall. A window seat joining two permanent bookcases at one end of the room adds wonderfully to its homelike appearance.

Colonial corner china closets (illustrated below) give beauty and dignity to the dining room, which like the living room, is separated from the main hall by French doors.

C-700. The beauty and dignity of Colonial woodwork are apparent in every line of the built-in corner china closets.

THE CENTRAL HALL *on the lower floor successfully separates the living portion of the house from kitchen and dining room. Many reasons make this desirable. A stair hall throws the entire second floor into one compact working unit during the housekeeper's daily routine.*



Exteriors C-708 and C-709 in architectural expressio

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in Spacious Rooms

-707—Colonial

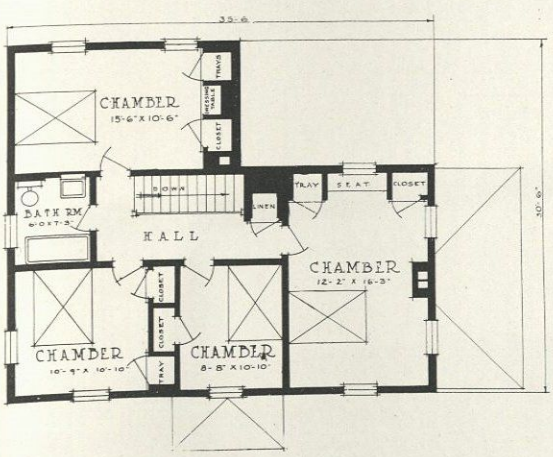
At any time both pairs of French doors can be opened onto the hall to permit the sweep of cooling breezes.

The arrangement of the kitchen involved careful study, for its fixtures had to be placed not only to receive the best of light from windows on two sides of the room, but to be convenient in their relation to each other.

In the large bedroom above the living room, you will find the broad comfortable window seat that connects the tray closet in one corner with the hanging closet in another corner. The rear bedroom, near the bathroom, is equipped with a permanent dressing table built-in between the two closets; the whole fitting comfortably into one side of the room. The other two rooms will be comfortable sleeping rooms for the children, or you may want to use the one just opposite the linen closet for the maid's room. Both of the chambers have good closets.

Entering the basement from the kitchen or by means of the outside cellarway, you come first upon a storage room whose area equals that of the dining room and hall above it. A laundry room utilizes all the space beneath the kitchen and the pantry.

WINDOW SEATS *in living room and bed room, the first flanked by book-cases, the second by tray case and hanging closet, present two beautiful room ends. No efforts have been spared by the Curtis Companies in selecting woods that will make for permanent beauty in cabinet work.*



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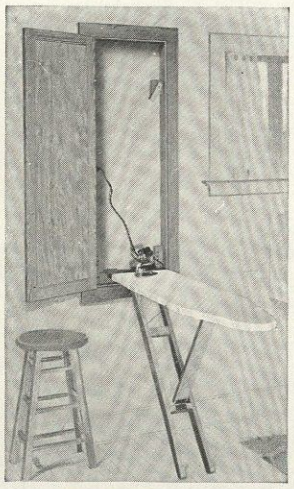
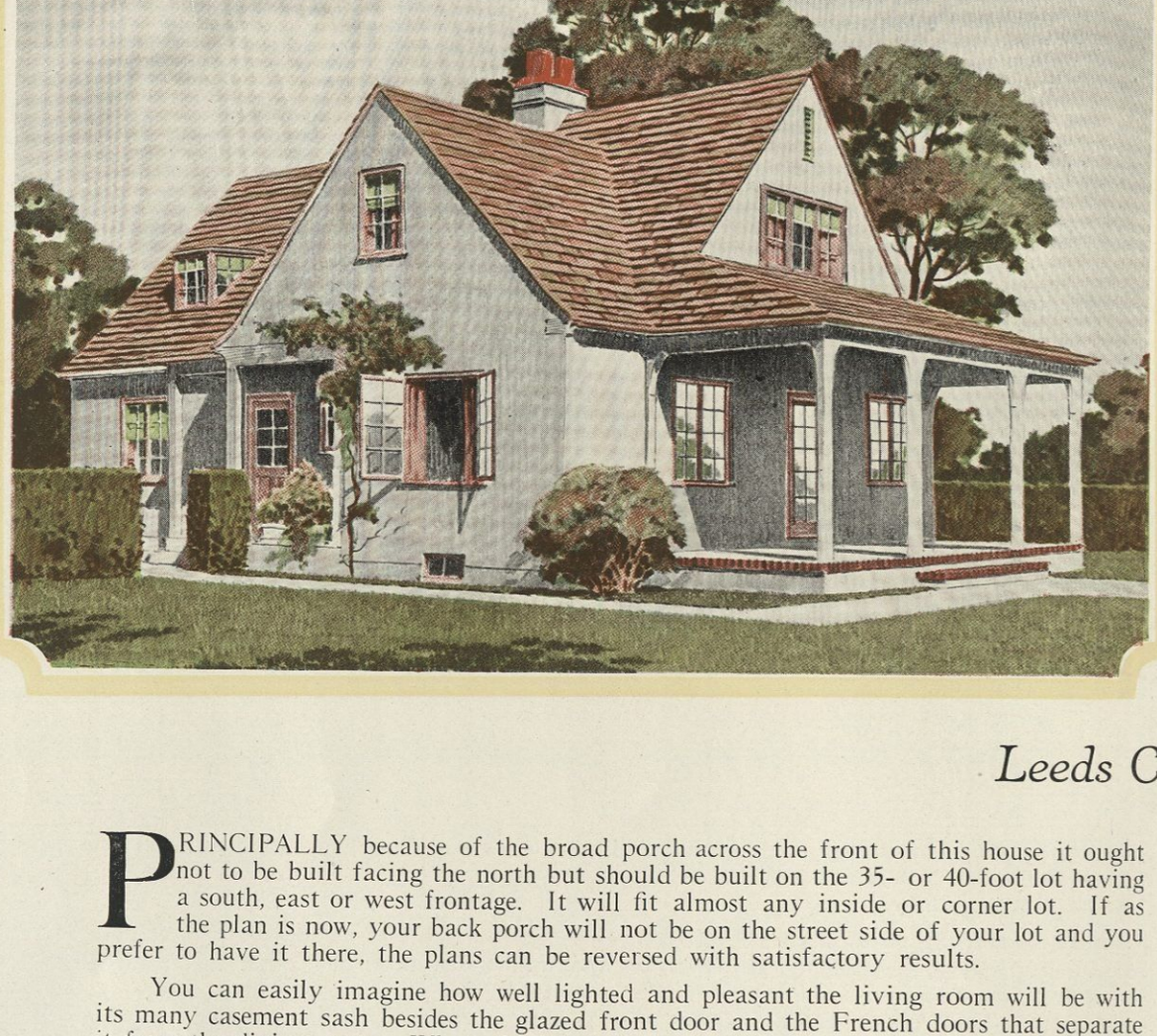


C-770. An ironing board is never in the way; it is always ready for use. No heavy lifting is required.

Good Sleeping Roo



Leeds C-70

PRINCIPALLY because of the broad porch across the front of this house it ought not to be built facing the north but should be built on the 35- or 40-foot lot having a south, east or west frontage. It will fit almost any inside or corner lot. If as the plan is now, your back porch will not be on the street side of your lot and you prefer to have it there, the plans can be reversed with satisfactory results.

You can easily imagine how well lighted and pleasant the living room will be with its many casement sash besides the glazed front door and the French doors that separate it from the dining room. Where the handsome open stairway turns, there is a little nook for the cozy seat to take advantage of.

A double-action door separates the dining room from the bright, airy kitchen whose many conveniences could hardly be more properly arranged than they now are. In this entry where the refrigerator is sure of a cool place, direct passage from the basement to the outside is possible. Abundant closet space has been apportioned each of the four chambers. Cross currents of air are possible in any one of these comfortable sleeping rooms with windows on two sides. Both the upstairs and downstairs halls have linen

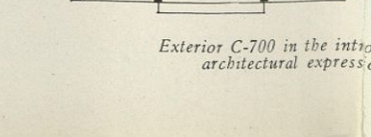
C-703. The dignity and beauty of built-in furniture is apparent in every line of the china closets in the dining room.

The Plan

IN THIS HOME you can have your choice of an upstairs or a downstairs sleeping room. There are two chambers and a bath upstairs and two chambers and a bath on the first floor, besides the living room, dining room and kitchen. The broad front porch and a side porch off the kitchen are worthy additions to this seven-room English house for they aid in the attractive appearance of its exterior, and on summer days form pleasant outdoor living rooms.

The extra closet near the bathroom and kitchen will be handy for sweeper, oil mop and dustcloths.

The family, some of whose members are elderly, will especially appreciate the advantages presented by the downstairs bedrooms.



Exterior C-700 in the intri architectural express

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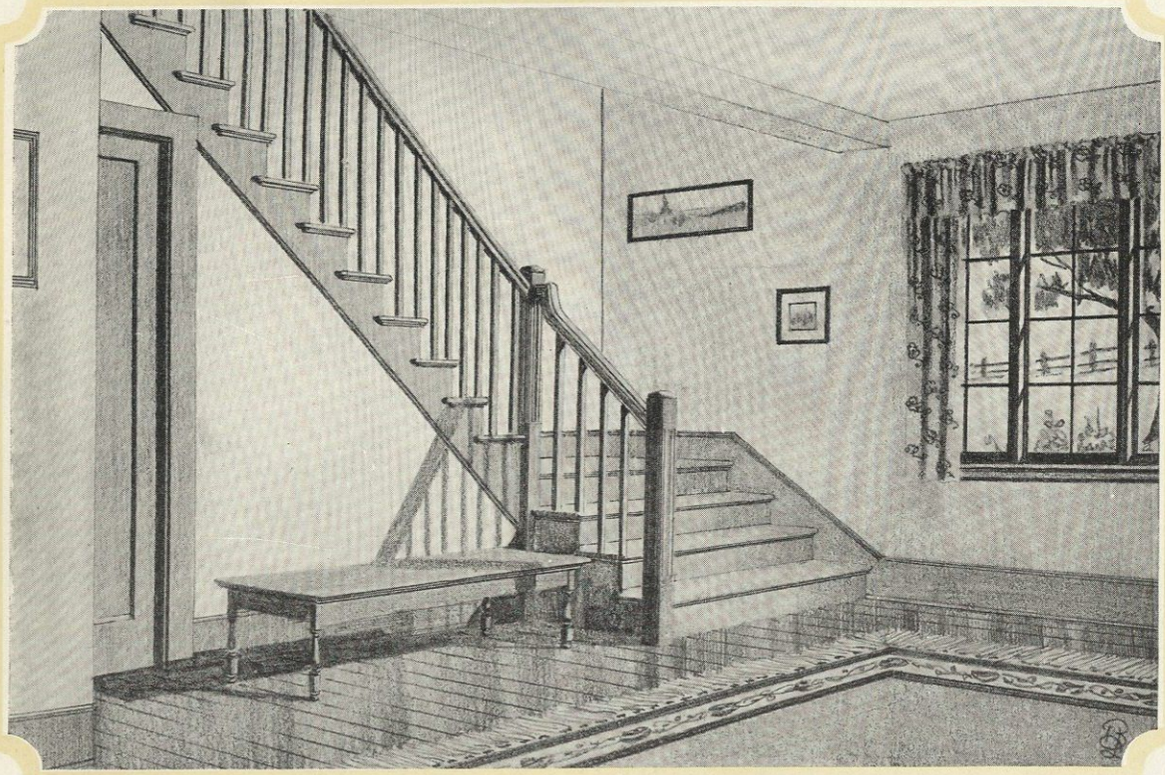
ms on Both Floors



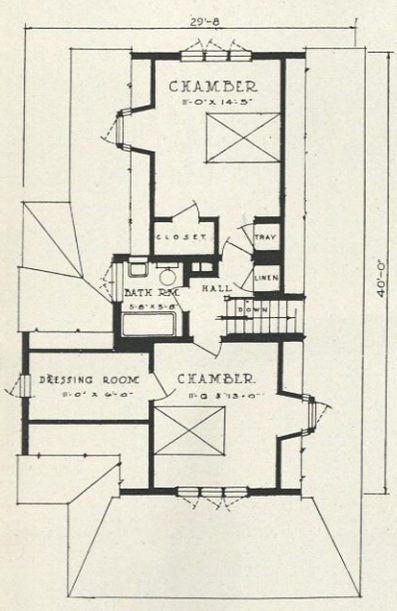
01—English

closets built-in in them, where they will be close at hand to the sleeping rooms as well as near to the conveniently arranged and well located bathrooms.

If at all possible, do not fail to finish off all basement rooms completely. Many homebuilders endeavor to effect a saving in initial cost by eliminating this comparatively small expense. It is a false economy. By keeping dust and dirt from reaching the upper floors the expense of spring and fall housecleaning will be materially reduced.

The heating room at the foot of the stairs and just beneath one of the downstairs bedrooms and bathroom, connects at the rear with the drying room beneath the other bedroom and at the front joins the coal bin and the storage beneath the dining room, making a compact and convenient basement layout.

There are many interesting details about the exterior of this English home that will endear it to its owner. Pretty casement sash in the well placed openings of creamy stucco walls and a quaint gabled roof are things by which Leeds will be remembered even by those just passing by who catch the spirit of hominess that saturates every inch of this design. The lover of English architecture will appreciate the beauty of Leed's exterior.

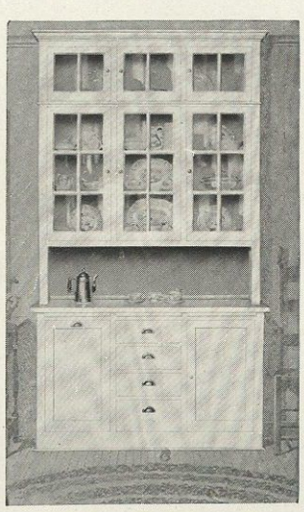


duction illustrates another on of this basic plan.

Built-In Furniture

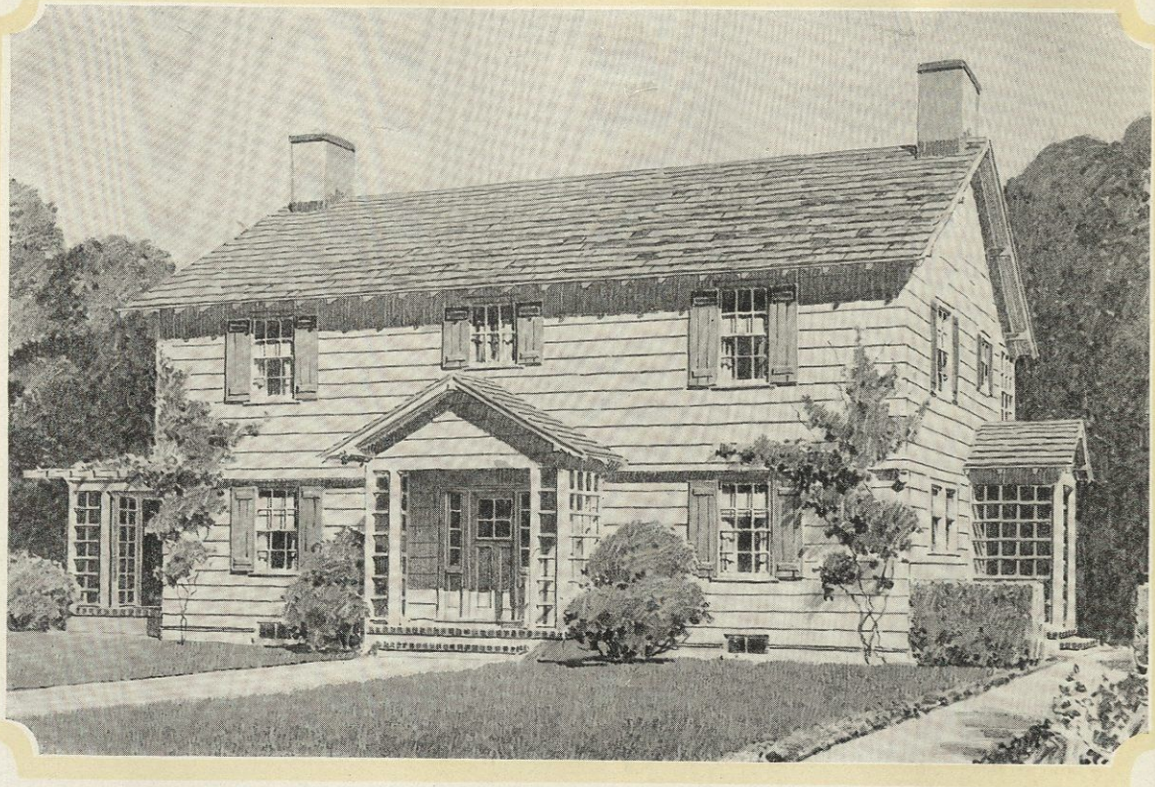
An Eminent Authority Has said, "Built-in furniture is very good in a small room because it takes and keeps its plan as a part of the wall and increases the floor space. It is advantageous in a room of great size because of its architectural importance, and of its decorative value in mass and color. The ideal built-in furniture represents great simplicity and perfect craftsmanship."

The manufacture of Curtis permanent furniture is guided by an ideal—to make it as good as it can be made. Perfect craftsmanship produces substantial articles the design of which has been given authenticity by Trowbridge & Ackerman, architects of note.



C-750. This built-in dresser is located in the kitchen where it is convenient from the dining room.

Six Rooms, Two Bathr

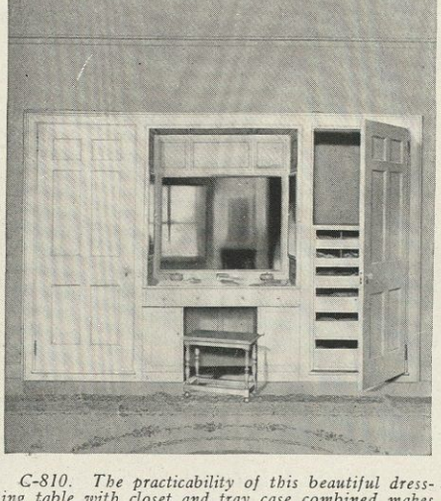


Talbot C-63

WHAT a living room you find here! All the comfortable chairs and lounges that go so well with the fireplace can be invitingly arranged without any crowding. The end of the room, which is fitted with bookcases and a built-in seat between them, is already furnished, leaving little else to be desired in that part of the room. On warm days this room is sure to be cool and pleasant for it has outside openings on three sides, two of which are the glazed doors that open onto the broad porch.

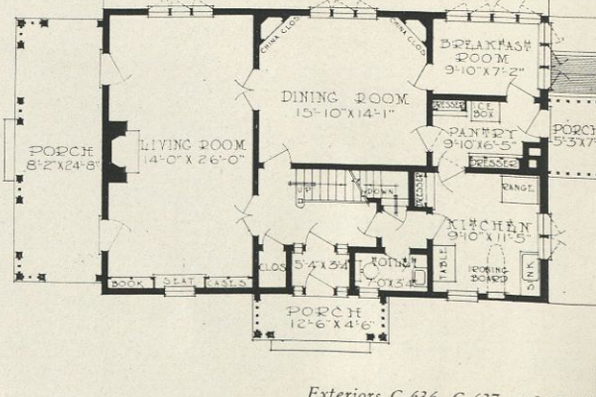
And there's beauty in the dining room, too. French doors open from the living room and triple windows look out over the rear garden. China cases of attractive design are built-in in two of the corners. In addition to the dining room, you also have a small breakfast room which is enclosed completely by casement sash. Notice the slide that opens from this room to the pantry, an arrangement that saves steps when serving meals. This breakfast room is no unnecessary luxury; its bright cheeriness will help members of the family to start the day right. Who would be guilty of having the blues in this cheery little room?

Take particular notice of the convenient arrangement of the kitchen fixtures and the



C-810. The practicability of this beautiful dressing table with closet and tray case combined makes it much more than an ornament for the chamber.

SIX ROOMS PLUS. *In addition to its six livable rooms Talbot has two bathrooms, a sleeping porch, a comfortable side porch, and a dining porch, to say nothing of the pantry and porch that supplement its kitchen. In the basement rooms, care has been taken to obtain a most compact arrangement.*



Exteriors C-636, C-637 and C-638 architectural expressi

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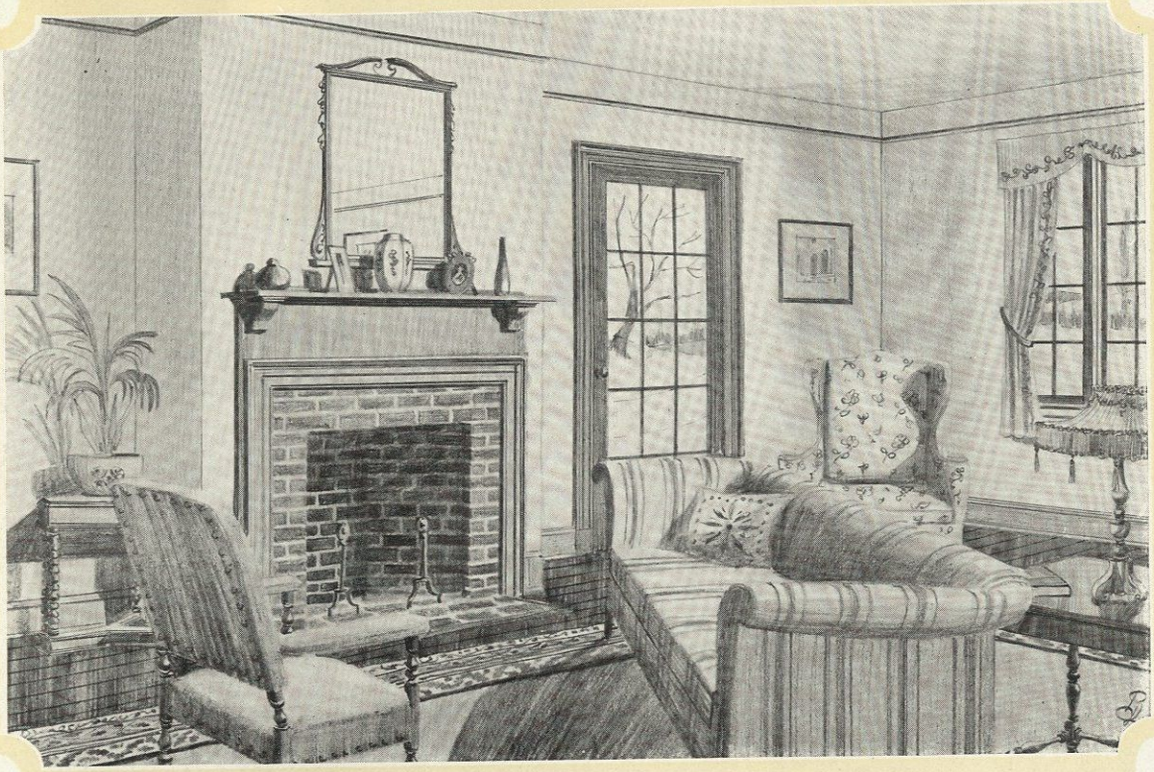
rooms, Sleeping Porch



1936 CURTIS WOODWORK

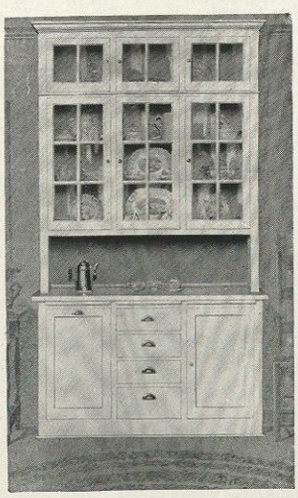
39—Western

built-in ironing board ever ready for use. The kitchen dresser, C-752, built-in near the pantry door fills a nook that might otherwise be wasted. The refrigerator has a corner of its own in the pantry.

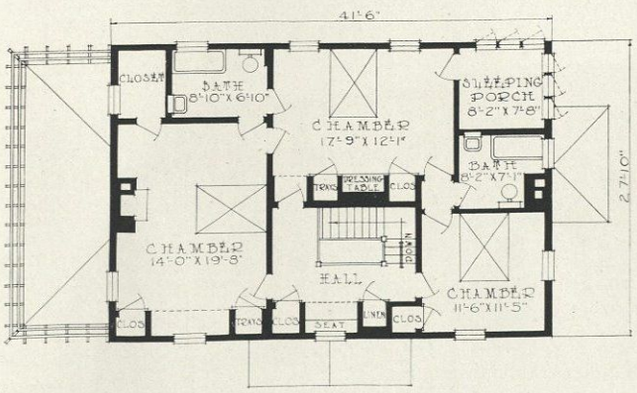
There is a fireplace on the second floor that the occupants of the larger bedroom are destined to enjoy. A hanging closet, tray closet and a wardrobe are other features this sleeping room has to offer. A built-in dressing table and direct access to the sleeping porch make the second chamber almost as desirable as the larger bedroom with the fireplace. The two main chambers, you will observe, have a bathroom to themselves. Another room that may be used as a maid's room or a child's bedroom is at the right of the stairway and handy to one of the bathrooms. Notice the built-in linen closet and the hanging closet in the hall with the cozy seat between.

You can build Talbot on a 60-foot lot or if you would just as soon use the main entrance as a side entrance and have your porch face the main street, you can build it on a lot as narrow as 35 feet. Clapboards or shingles, used singly or in combination are proper materials for this Western home.

CHINA CLOSETS *built into the corners at each side of the dining room, makes this one of the most charming of room ends. These china closets, the French doors, the bookcases and living room mantel are strictly in accord as to design and architectural merit. The ironing board, C-770, and kitchen dresser, C-750, add materially to the joy of kitchen work.*



C-750. The joy of the culinary artist is dresser C-750. Its usefulness adds much to the kitchen.



in the introduction illustrate other ns of this basic plan.

Charming Becaus

Hopewell C-70

IF YOU would have your children grow up in a beautiful home, build Hopewell for them. The quiet dignity of its simple Colonial lines cannot help but have its part in the moulding of their minds and character.

Simple roof lines add to the charm of its exterior; and that charm is the kind that lasts forever. These simple Colonial lines will be as good when your little tots are grown up as they were in your grandfather's time.

Hopewell can be erected on a fifty-foot lot facing north, south or east, or when the plan is reversed it can have a west frontage. The porch will then face the south. A corner lot is particularly appropriate where the entrance porch will face one street and the private porch will face the other.

This plan is derived from Hampstead C-707, but the differences are of a minor nature. By increasing the depth to 33 feet, the living room has been extended and additional length has been given to the dining room and hall. The width of the wing in which the service rooms are located, has been increased and a desirable stair arrangement has been secured. This provides direct access from the kitchen to the front hall and the second floor

C-811. With this dressing table and tray case built-in, floor space is left in your bedroom for other furnishings.

C-707 in this portfolio and exteriors C-7 other architectural express

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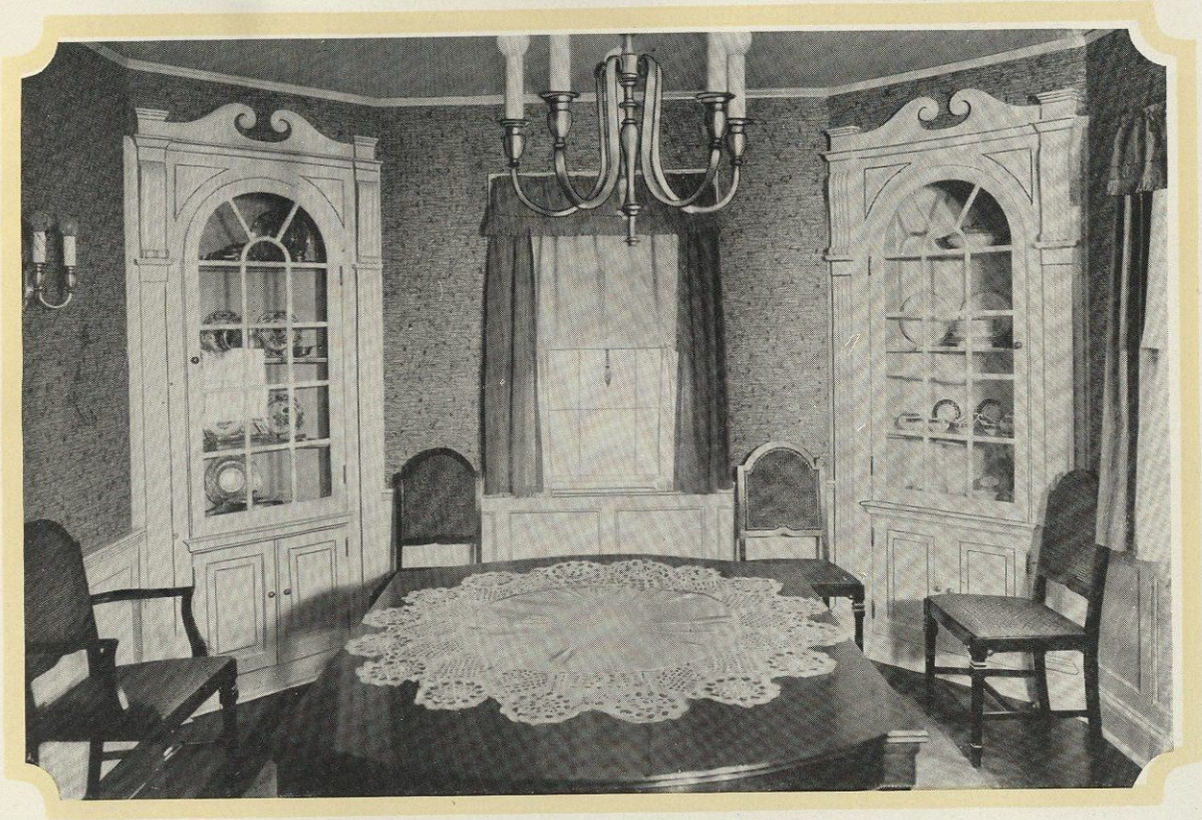
e of Simple Lines

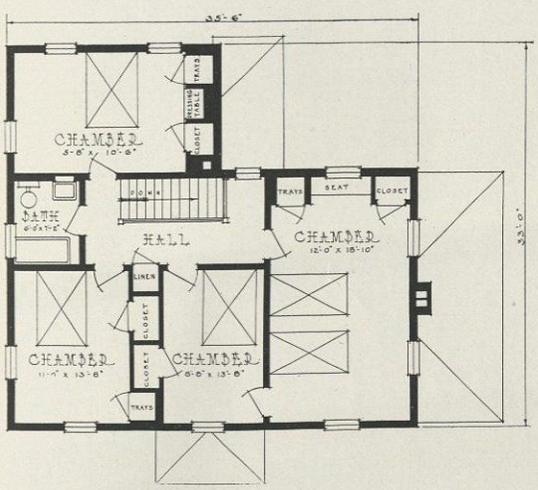


07A—Colonial

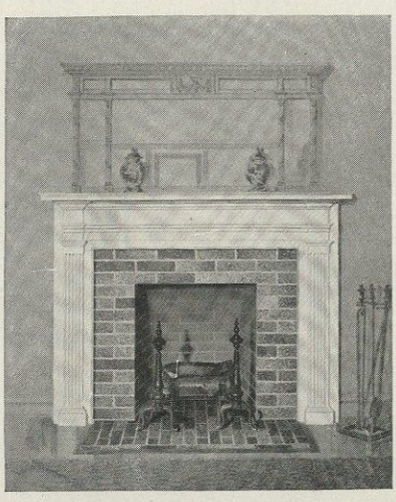
through common stair landing. A downstairs lavatory and toilet have been added.

On the second floor all bedrooms receive their share of added floor space. In the largest bedroom—probably the owner's room—additional floor space has been secured by placing the chimney on the outside wall. A similar condition exists, of course, in the living room below.

It should be borne in mind that increasing room sizes increases building costs. It is true, however, that given a house correctly planned to begin with, a change in room sizes of six inches will cost practically as much as a change of two feet. This is because, in the correctly planned home standard lengths of material have been used. For instance, standard floor joists are available in 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20-foot lengths. A full 16-foot joist costs no more than one 14′6″ because the shorter joist must be cut from a 16-foot piece. If in selecting your plan you find it necessary to increase its dimensions, take the full advantage to be gained through the use of standard lengths of material. Just as a saving can be made in the use of rough lumber a corresponding saving results through incorporating in your home items of Curtis Standardized Woodwork.

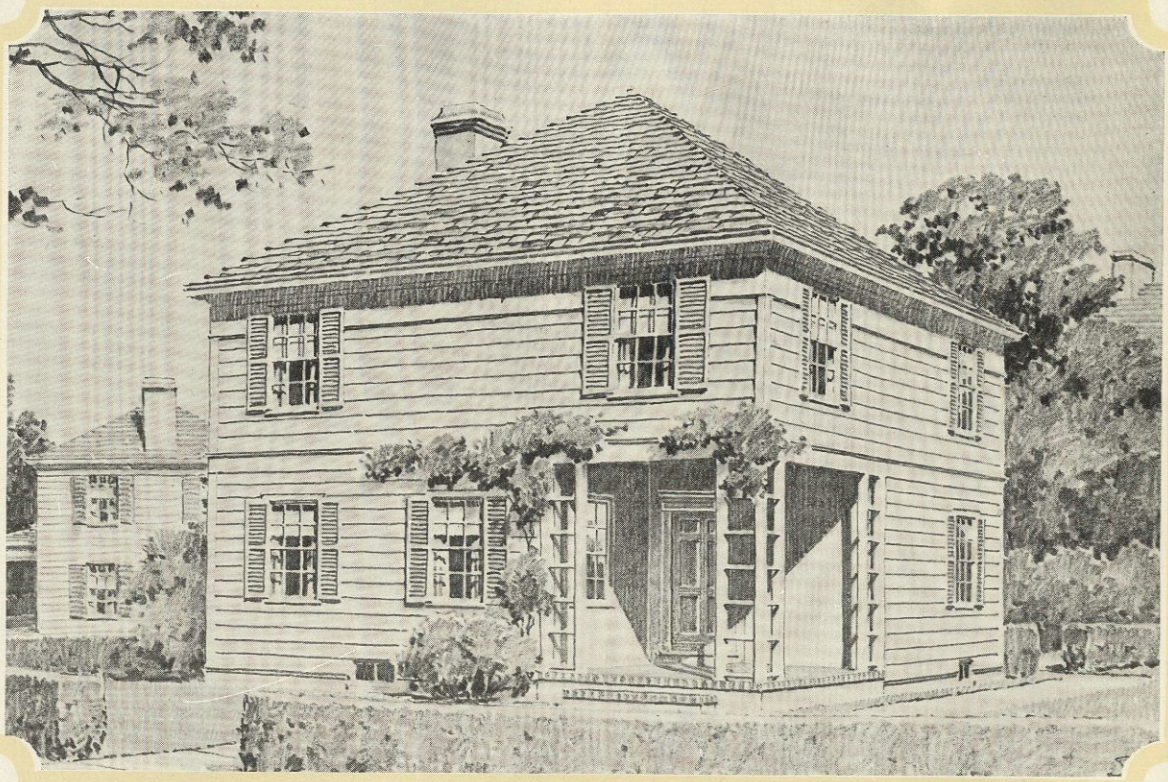


08 and C-709 in the introduction illustrate ions of a similar basic plan.



C-617. What is home without a fireplace, especially one with a mantel as beautiful as this one? The design is purely Colonial.

This Pretty Colonial



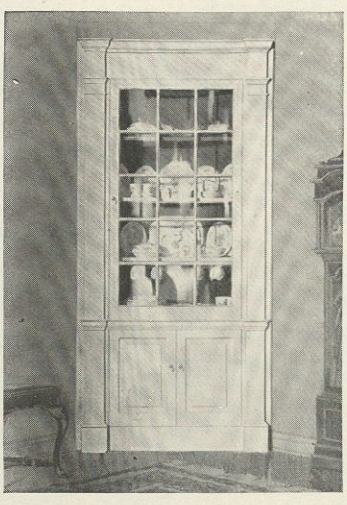
Crawford C-7

WHETHER you have a corner or an inside lot makes little difference when considering Crawford, for this seven-room Colonial design will fit almost any lot with the plan as shown or when reversed. The rear porch, entry and outside access to the basement can be changed about if necessary, so as to make the rear porch directly accessible from the other side of the house.

Turning to the left in the hall, where you can leave your wraps in the handy closet, you come upon a spacious living room, well lighted and abounding in usable wall space, which delights the imagination with its possibilities for furnishing. The interior picture, which shows the handsome open stairway at one end, suggests a pleasing treatment for this room.

More than the usual closet space is afforded the dining room, for besides the two attractive corner china cases, C-701, it also has a useful wall closet. These closets require very little space, leaving the usual dining room furniture ample opportunity for a comfortable arrangement.

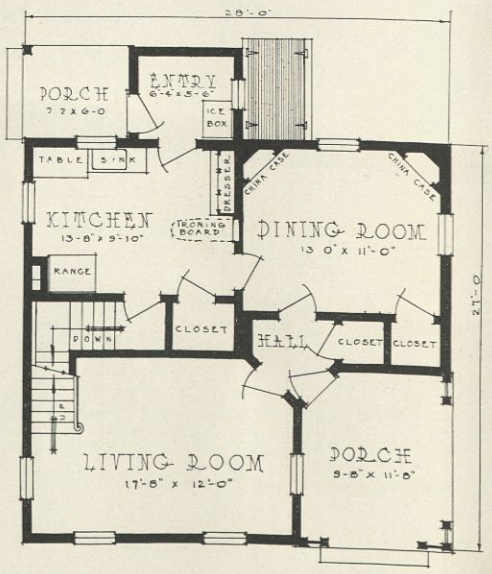
The housewife does not need a description of the kitchen and its equipment for she



C-701. China closets, when built-in in the dining room, seem to be an integral part of the very structure of the house.

THE SQUARE TYPE. *Maximum available room area is combined with minimum material outlay in this house of the square type, the exterior of which has been done in the Colonial. Standard sizes and lengths of material enter into its construction, which makes for economy.*

The porch, lying within the square of the house, providing shelter for the entrance; the hall between the entrance, living and dining room; and the unusual closet space throughout, mark this plan as intensely practical. The kitchen arrangement is ideal.



Exterior C-711 in the intro architectural expressio

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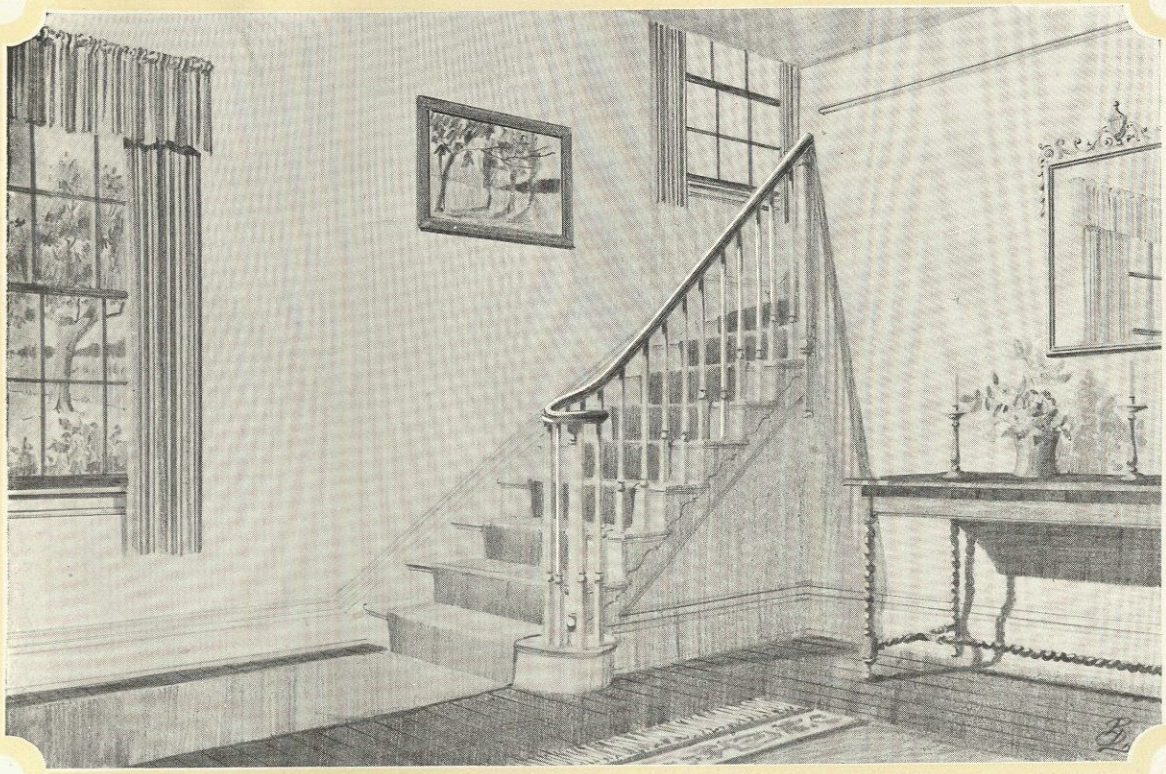
House Fits Any Lot

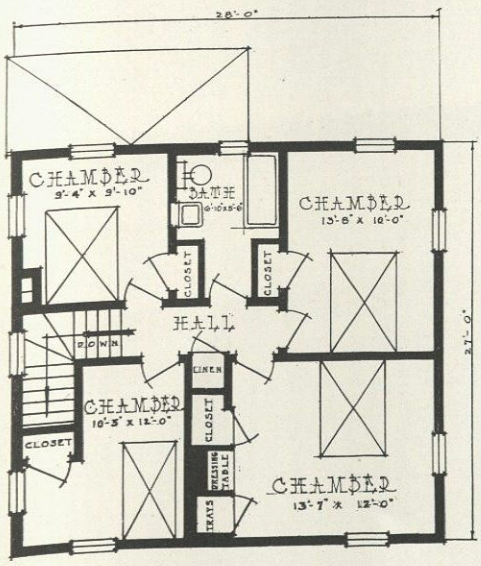


710—Colonial

can see at once that its arrangement has been carefully studied, with good results.

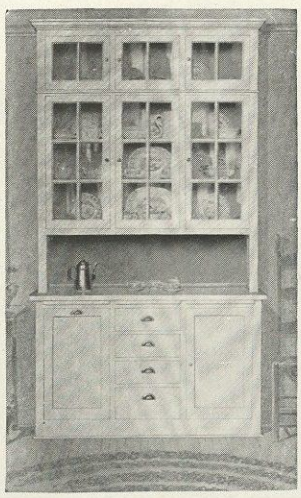
Three of the comfortable bedrooms on the second floor have excellent hanging closets and are lighted and ventilated by windows on two sides. A fourth and larger chamber, while enjoying accommodations similar to those offered in the other bedrooms, has in addition the built-in dressing table, tray case and hanging closet combination. Notice on the plan how closely connected with the entrance to the comfortably-arranged bathroom are the doors to all bedrooms and how the linen closet built-in in the hallway is made handy to all upstairs rooms.

The basement stairs that are accessible from the outside, end in the heater room beneath the kitchen, with the adjoining coal bin beneath the dining room. The stairs from the kitchen end in the drying room next to the heater room and beneath the living room. This drying room can easily be fitted to serve as a laundry, should such an arrangement be desired. However, as a drying room it amply serves its purpose by making it unnecessary for the housewife to leave the shelter of the house on wintry days to hang the clothes to dry. This feature will be doubly appreciated by the family with children.



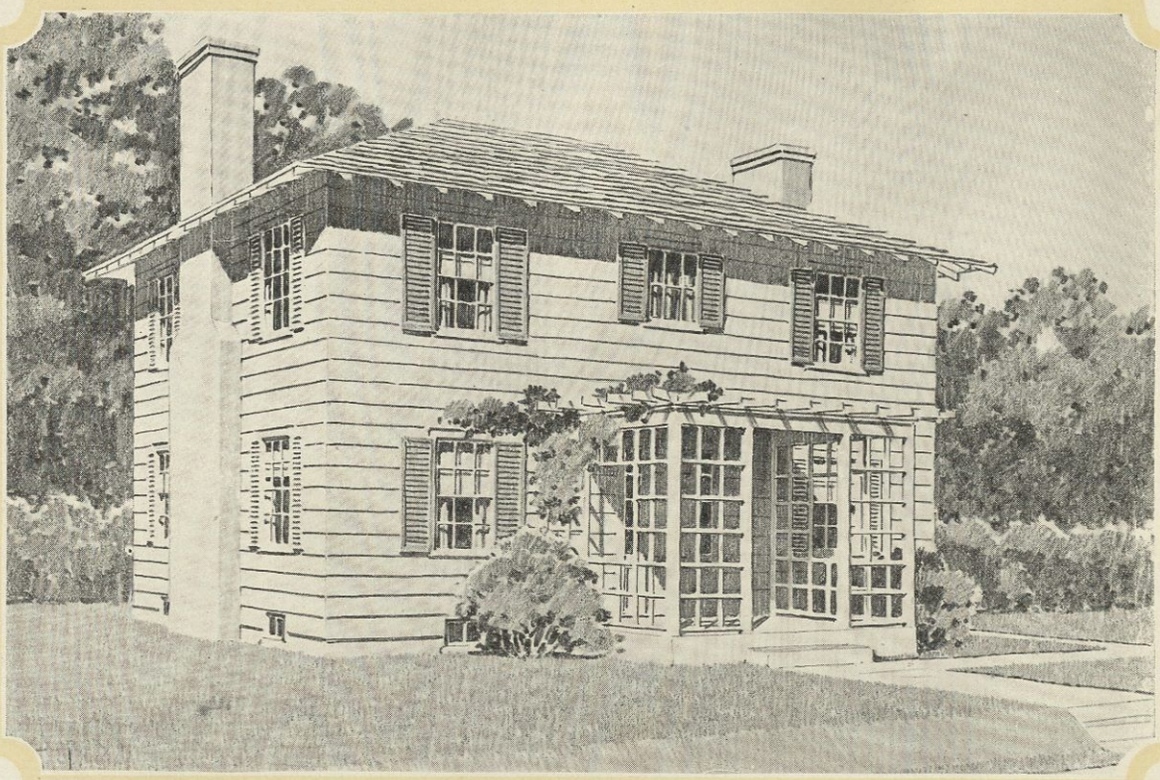
duction illustrates another n of this basic plan.

PERMANENCE. *The face stock used in Curtis cabinet work is of one and one-eighth inch thickness. All door stock is one inch thick. This material is not veneered, but is solid first quality wood throughout. All drawers, except the very smallest, have dovetailed corners and operate on slides or guides. A stop on the guide prevents the drawer from going back farther than flush with the face of the cabinet, thus spoiling the design. These features are some of those which stamp Curtis Woodwork as the permanent furniture of the home.*



C-750. It's only a few feet from the sink to this dresser. That means many steps saved.

Four Corner Bedr

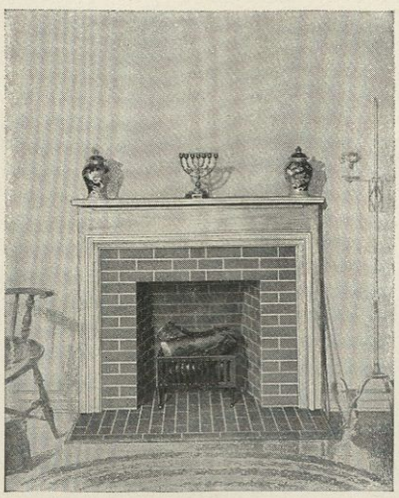


Ruthford C-

THE homebuilders of the present generation have no fear of the "night air" that their parents used to shun, therefore there is a demand for cross-ventilated bedrooms. Ruthford has four such rooms and if this feature is of interest to you, study the plans of the house. You will need a 40-foot lot for this home. It could be an inside or a corner lot just so the house faces the south, east or north. The south is the desirable frontage because it puts the dining room on the east and the living room on the west, most desirable locations for these rooms.

An interesting little porch with pergola roof and trellised sides protects the front entrance. The entrance is C-103, which has sidelights that make the vestibule bright. Notice the closet for wraps in this vestibule. It also has a shelf. Door C-231 opens from the vestibule to the hall, allowing the light from the front entrance to brighten the closed stairway. There is no wasted hall space.

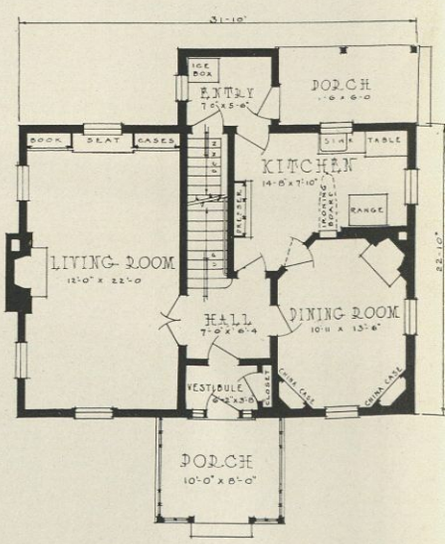
French door C-321 closes the hall from the living room. There are windows on three sides of this room, which insure its being bright and cheerful all day long, and its being easy to ventilate in the summer. In winter the delightful fireplace will be most enjoyable, al-



C-618. The mantel around the fireplace in the living room is quite as refined and well proportioned as that in the dining room.

NO WASTE SPACE. *This interesting square house is a practical example of economical building. There is a reason for every inch of space appearing on the plan.*

Often plans show halls of immense size. This is a mistake. There is no wasted hall space in Ruthford. Every room in the house, upstairs and down, has cross-ventilation. The enclosed rear entry is an especially commendable feature, sheltering, as it does, the kitchen entrance, and providing a handy place for ice box, brooms and mops.



Exteriors C-712 and C-713 in architectural expressi

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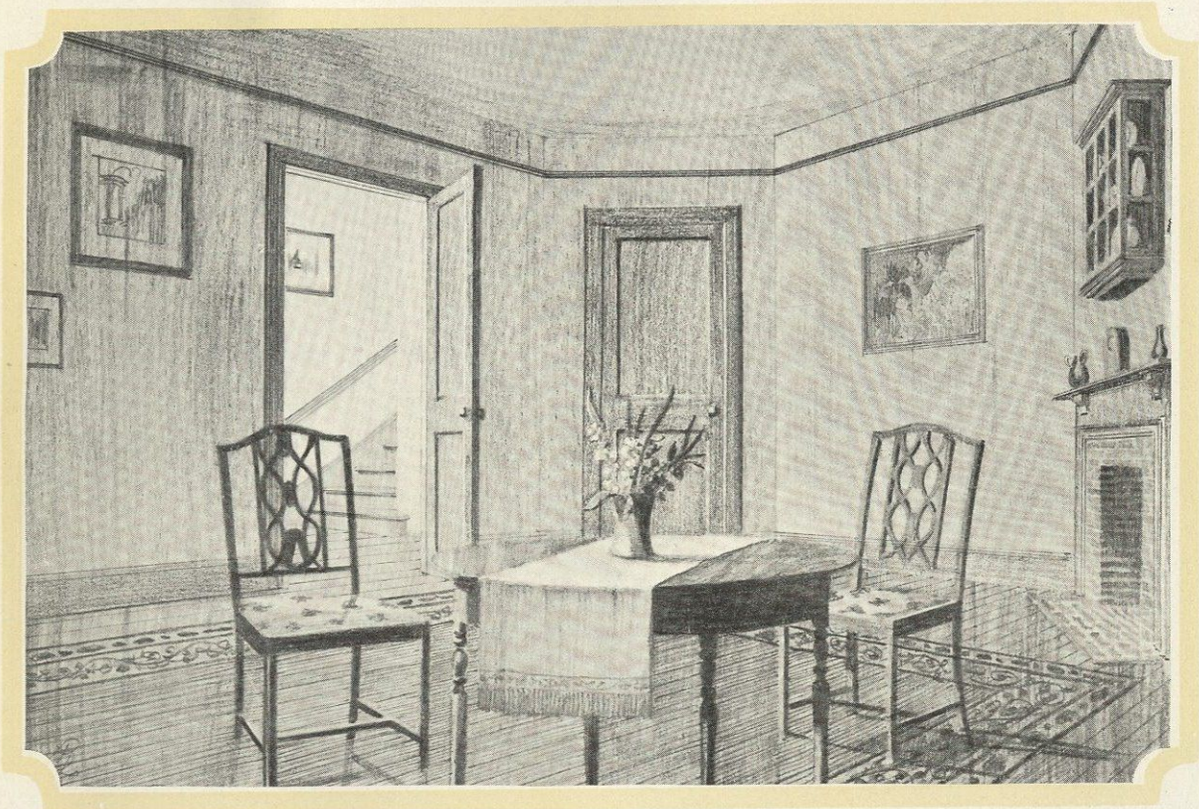
ooms In This Home



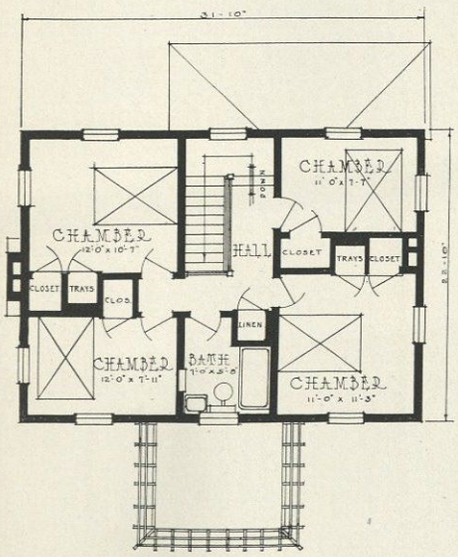
714—Western

though all the year around the handsome mantel will make it a center of interest. Its impressive beauty is rivaled only by that of the built-in seat and bookcase, C-594.

Ruthford has a dining room that will require no other furniture than the dining table and chairs, because the built-in china closet, C-704, and the mantel, C-621, around the fireplace make it look well furnished even when empty. This room, you will observe, is almost octagonal in shape and is, therefore, of considerable interest.

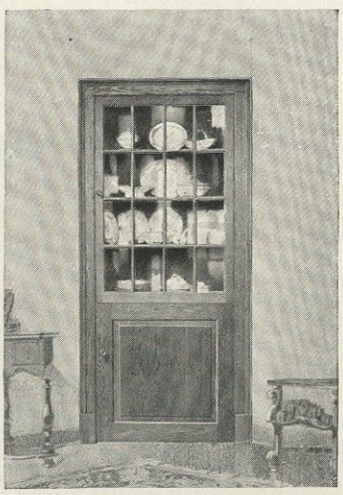
Cutting off a corner of the dining room adds much to the floor space of the kitchen and it makes possible the installation of the broad kitchen dresser, C-750, at one end. Other kitchen conveniences are the worktable, C-762, and ironing board, C-770, in its built-in case. The refrigerator is placed in the daylight entry and about it you can build a shelf or two for storing surplus kitchen supplies. There is room in this entry, too, for a table on which the grocer boy can deposit his packages without entering your kitchen.

Each bedroom, in addition to its windows on two sides previously mentioned, has a large closet and two of the chambers have tray cases. The bright hallway brings the rooms into close communication and makes the built-in linen closet, C-813, more usable.



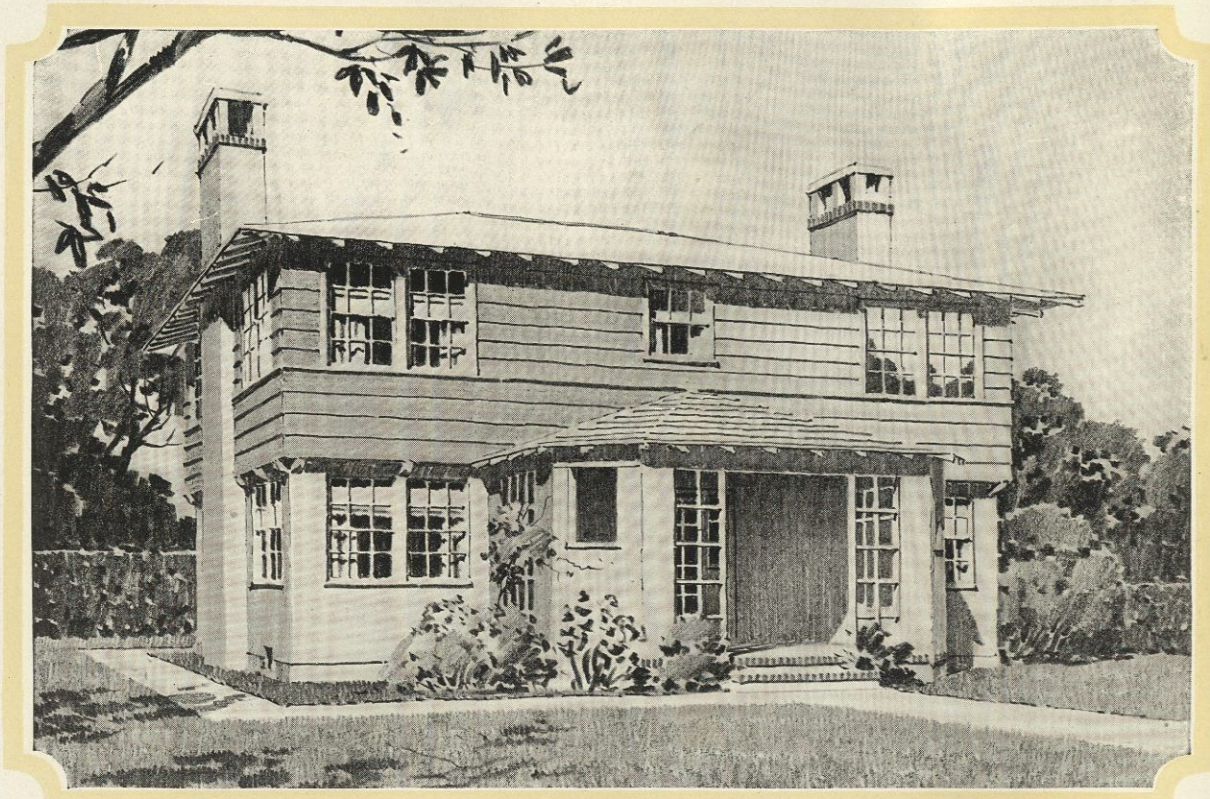
the introduction illustrate other ons of this basic plan.

BUILT-IN FURNITURE. *In the description above, much has been said of the beauty of Curtis built-in furniture. In other parts of this portfolio the quality of material and superior workmanship has been mentioned. Every piece of Curtis Woodwork is trademarked after it has passed a rigid inspection. That trademark guarantees you absolute satisfaction and is your means of identifying a quality article of architectural value. The cost is entirely in line with the articles themselves—permanent furniture.*



C-704. Built-in corner china closets add interest and beauty to the octagonal dining room in Ruthford.

A Seven-Room Home

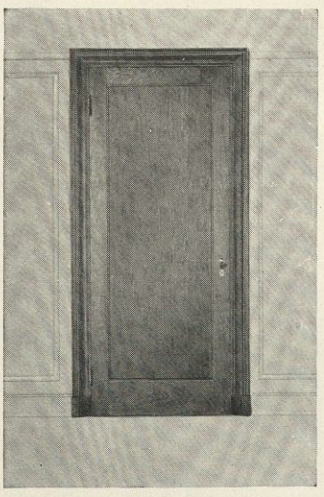


Ramona C-7

RECENT years have seen growing in favor the house with overhanging eaves and open cornice and with a rugged exterior and low-lying lines. Ramona is a house of this type but of far greater refinement in details and of nicer proportions than a great many that you see. If you need seven rooms and have a plot of ground at least 40 feet wide, whether it is on an inside or a corner lot, you may find Ramona exactly what you want. The house should have a south or east frontage, south preferred; or if reversed it can be built with a west frontage.

If you desire a home with a sheltered porch, here it is. You enter the house from this porch into a vestibule and then you come upon a hallway where you see the main stairway, C-911. At the end of the hall is a closet for wraps and it has a mirror door that gives a full length view.

French doors open from the hall onto the living room, and what a living room it is! It has windows on three sides with an inviting fireplace in the center of one outside wall. The fascination of the glowing fire is increased by the beauty of the mantel, C-622, which surrounds it.

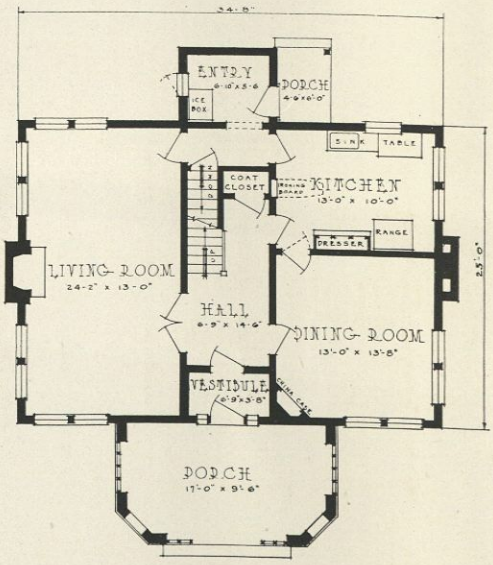


C-307. The native beauty of wood is given an excellent display in the large flat panel of this door.

The Basement

YOU CAN GET TO THE BASEMENT *directly from the outside through the rear porch and entry without going into the kitchen, or you can reach it very easily from the kitchen. The stairway leads to the drying room beneath the hall and living room. Opening from it is a storage room lying beneath part of the living room; on the other side a heating room and coal bin are situated beneath the kitchen and dining room.*

Many homebuilders omit basement partitions as a means of reducing their original investment. You will find this false economy.



Exteriors C-715, C-716 and C-717 architectural expression

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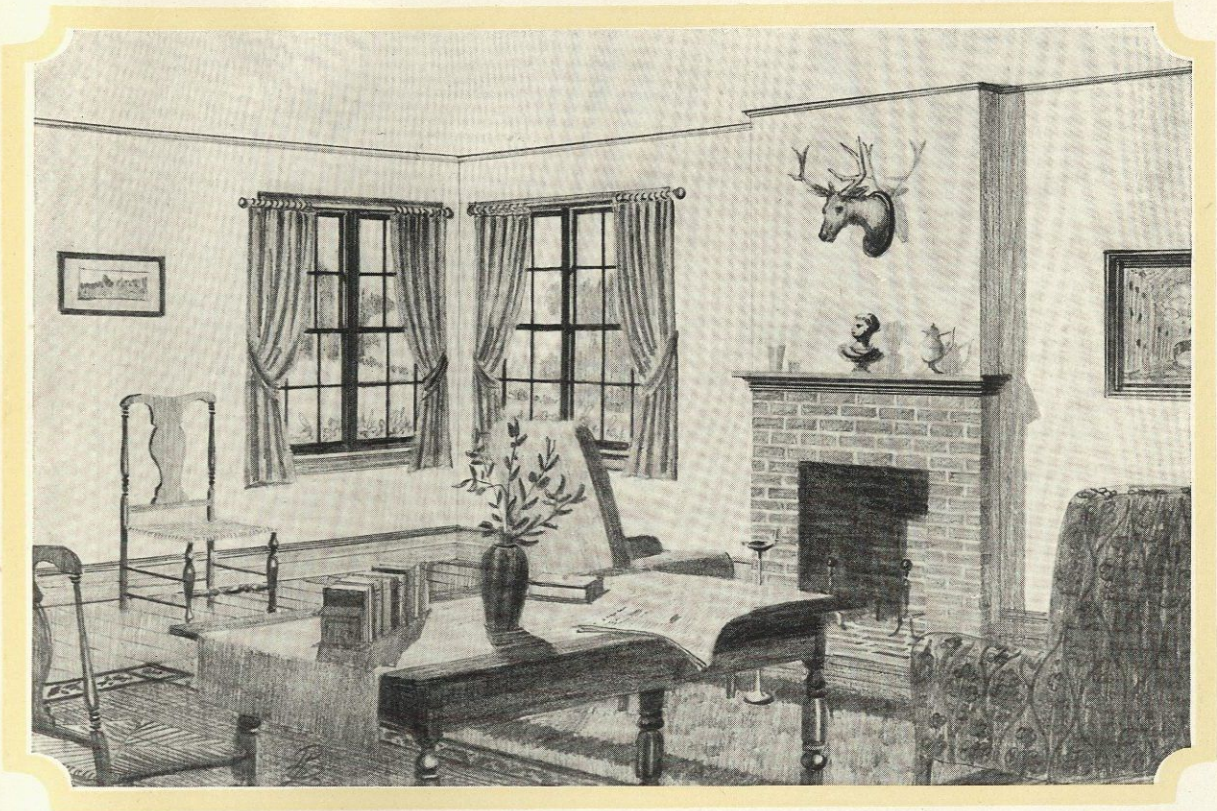
Beautiful Anywhere



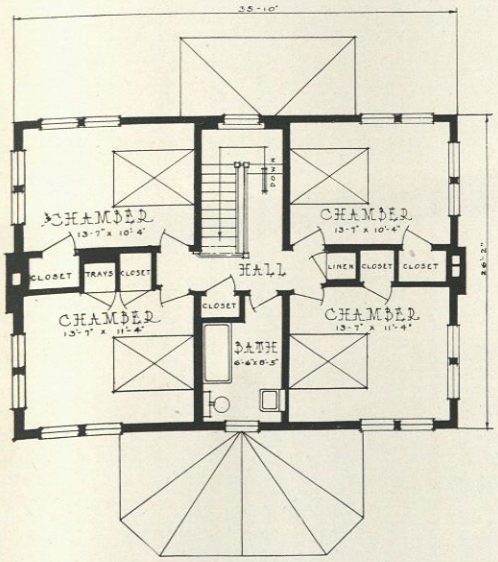
18—Western

The dining room is interesting, too. It is quite removed from the living room and it is entered from the hall through only a single door. In one corner is the built-in china closet, C-704. Window openings on two sides make the room bright and cheerful.

With the rear entry and its shelves and the cool place for the refrigerator and the many conveniences in the kitchen, the work of preparing meals in this home should be easily and pleasantly accomplished. Kitchen dresser, C-750, and worktable, C-762, constitute some of the permanent furniture of the kitchen.

Every bedroom in Ramona is a corner room with windows on two adjoining sides. That means cooling breezes at night in summer and fresh air in the winter. Each bedroom has a good closet while one of them has a tray case in addition.

The hall upstairs is well lighted by a window, insuring a bright stairway. Notice the position of the built-in linen closet between two of the bedrooms. Handy to the bathroom and near the bedrooms is another closet with shelves. One does not have to reach over the tub in the bathroom in Ramona to open the window, so conveniently are the fixtures arranged.



in the introduction illustrate other ns of this basic plan.

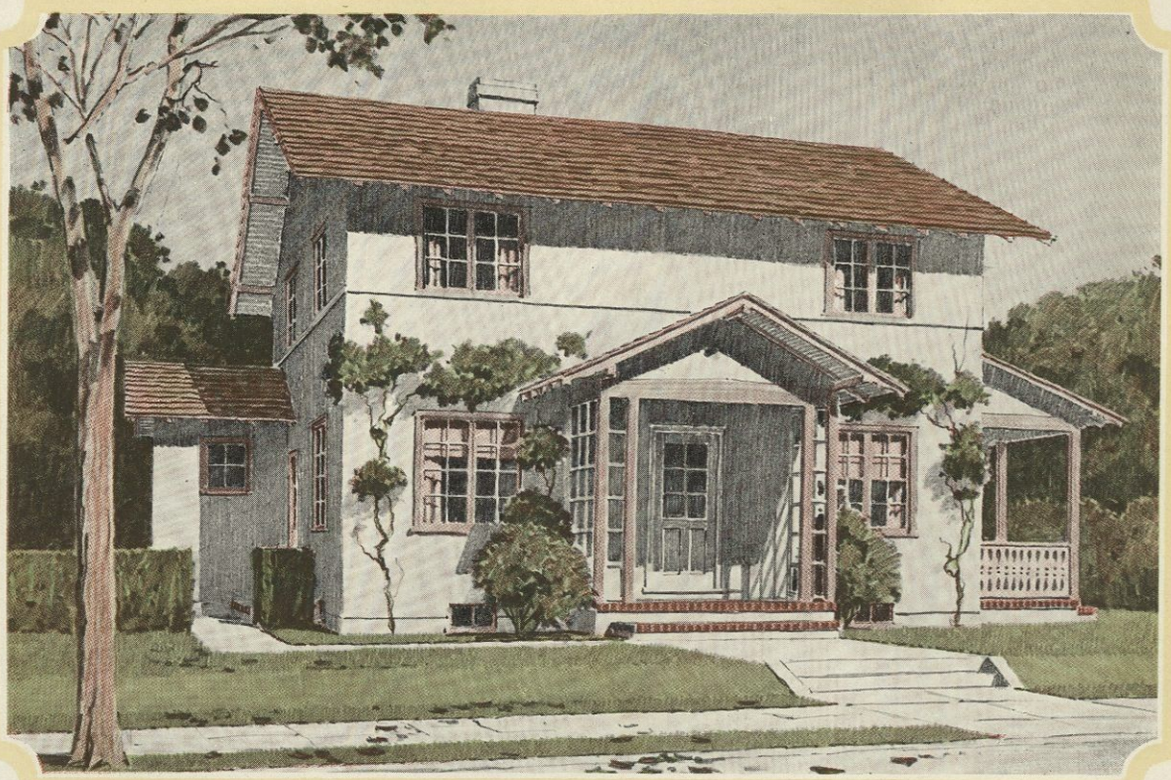
Interior Doors

THE ONE PANEL HARDWOOD DOOR, *C-307, recommended for use in this house, is carefully constructed. The panel is* $\frac{7}{16}$*" thick and is made for three thicknesses of veneer, the grain of the inside piece running at right angles to the grain of the two face sheets. These, when glued together, produce a panel of unusual strength. Painstaking selection as to color and grain insures a beautiful as well as a strong door.*

Careful sanding, rigid inspection and improved packing methods, mean that no flaws mar the finished door when delivered to you.

C-762. A cabinet with shelves and a flour bin are features of this piece of permanent furniture.

A Downstairs Den



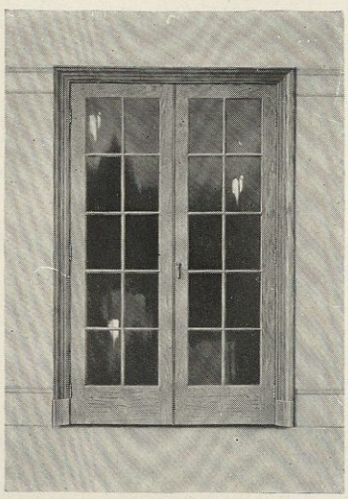
Sedwell C-7

TO the professional man who spends considerable time at home, this plan with a downstairs den should be particularly appealing. When closed off from the rest of the house, the den is a quiet place to read or study undisturbed. Good light is assured by casement sash on two sides, beneath one of which a window seat connects the permanent bookcases in the corners.

Sedwell has a livable porch at one side that can easily be screened. Then in spring and summer when you desire to be out of doors, here's a spot where flies and mosquitoes will not annoy.

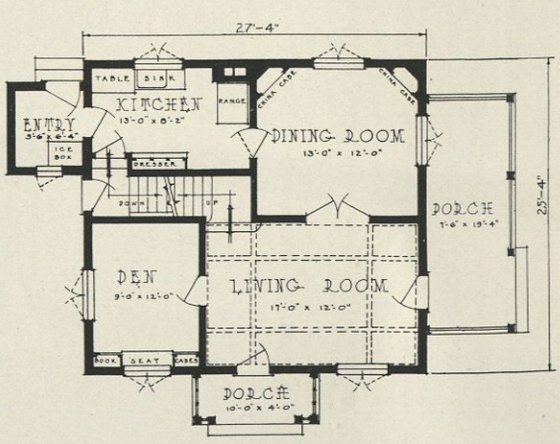
Since the porch is at one side, Sedwell can be built facing any direction but east, for that orientation would put the porch in an undesirable location. With the plan reversed, however, an east frontage is desirable and the lot with a west frontage should be avoided. This house can be built on any inside or corner lot.

Especially attractive, too, are the French doors that open into the dining room, where in the corners opposite handsome china cases, C-704, have been built. Casement sash on two sides supply abundant light and air and make this a most pleasant dining room.



C-321. Light can pass through these French doors while shutting off sounds and drafts.

CROSS VENTILATION. *All three bedrooms are corner rooms and they receive light and air from two directions. In the fourth corner is the well-lighted bathroom, opening onto the hall near the linen closet. So situated the bathroom is easy to reach from any one of the bedrooms.*



Exteriors C-719 and C-720 in architectural expressi

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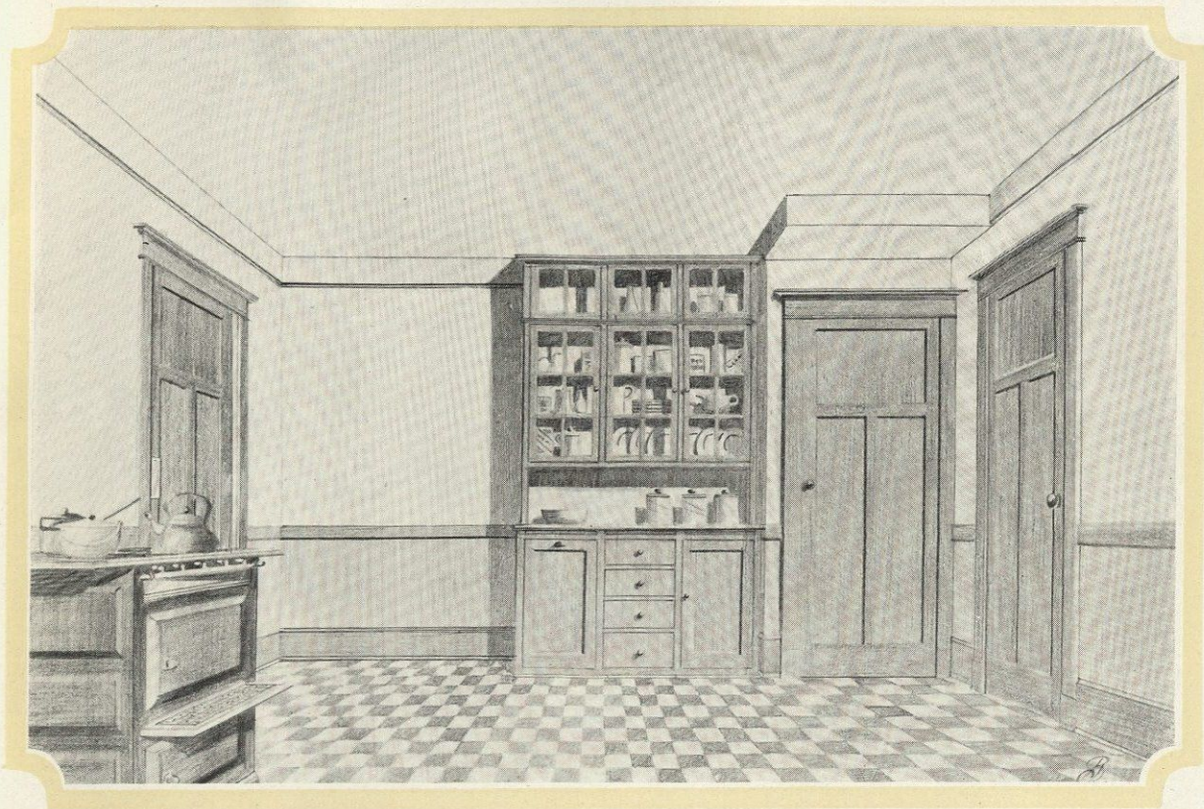
and a Livable Porch



21—Western

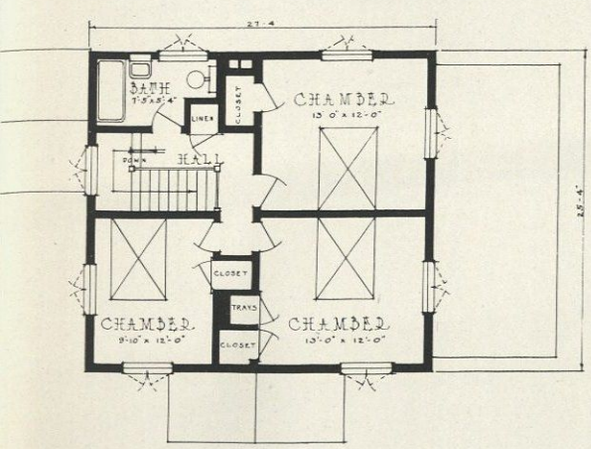
The serving table or tea wagon will find plenty of room here without crowding the necessary furnishings.

Sedwell has a very comfortable kitchen to work in, as you can guess from the interior picture. Casement sash in the back of the room provide plenty of light for the sink and drainboard beneath them and all the other fixtures. Out in the daylight entry shelves can be placed for holding kitchen supplies and still there will be space for the refrigerator where it will be away from the heat of the kitchen.

The basement stairs are reached either from the kitchen or directly from the outside through the grade door. They lead to the storage beneath the den and part of the living room and to the drying room at the rear beneath the kitchen. The furnace room beneath the dining room connects with the coal bin under a corner of the living room.

Sedwell is rather an intermediate type of home that can be built most anywhere and will retain about it a dignity and charm that surroundings cannot change. When selecting your home—its plan and exterior treatment—visualize the possibilities of the surroundings, that it may be part and parcel of a beautiful picture.

MONEY AND TIME SAVED. *Housed and mitred stringers; treads and risers, tongued and grooved and wedged, dovetailed balusters and anchored newels found in Curtis Stairs mean money and time saved in their installation in your home.*



the introduction illustrate other ons of this basic plan.

C-911. At the rear of the living room facing the front entrance, is a stairway with a newel, rail and balusters like those of this design.

An Unusually Beau

Amsden C-7

JUDGING from the picture, Amsden appears to require a large lot, but really a lot with a 45-foot frontage gives ample lawn about it, and makes a comfortable setting. A west, north or south frontage is possible, of which the west is first choice, for in that position with the porch on the south all the rooms within are most pleasantly lighted. In considering Amsden for a corner lot, it is sometimes best to reverse the plan in order to have the porch face the side street rather than the neighboring house.

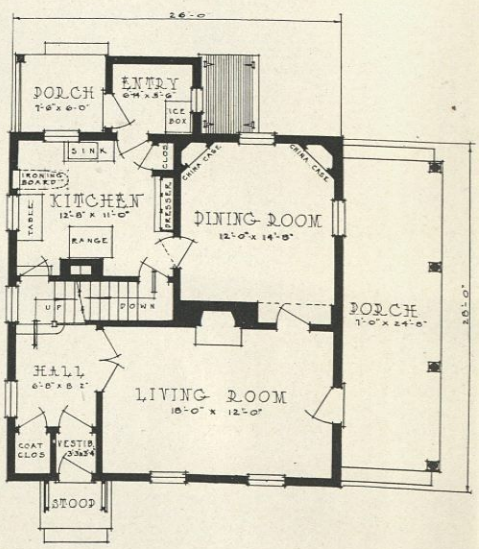
An enclosed vestibule keeps the cold away from the main hall with its open stairway. Before entering the living room you can hang your wraps in the closet by the window. The interior picture shows you a corner of the living room connecting with the hall through handsome French doors. As the picture suggests, much of the refined appearance of a room depends upon its architectural details. Take the mantel, for example, is it not of graceful design? French wall paneling can be used with beautiful results in this livable room.

A single door separates the living room from the dining room, where more architectural beauty is discernible in the useful corner china cases. Windows on two sides of

C-700. Two Colonial China Closets, like this one, are built-in in two corners of the dining room in this house.

NOT EVERY COLONIAL HOUSE *offers the pleasures of a comfortable side porch as Amsden. Nor do you find in their interiors as compact and livable an arrangement of rooms. In these respects this design is unusual.*

In answering calls at the front door or going back and forth from the kitchen to the second floor, it is not necessary to pass through the dining room and living room, for the stairway is planned with a double landing one side in the hall, the other in the kitchen. This arrangement is economical as it saves a complete flight of rear stairs.



Exteriors C-723, C-724, C-725 and C-7 architectural expressio

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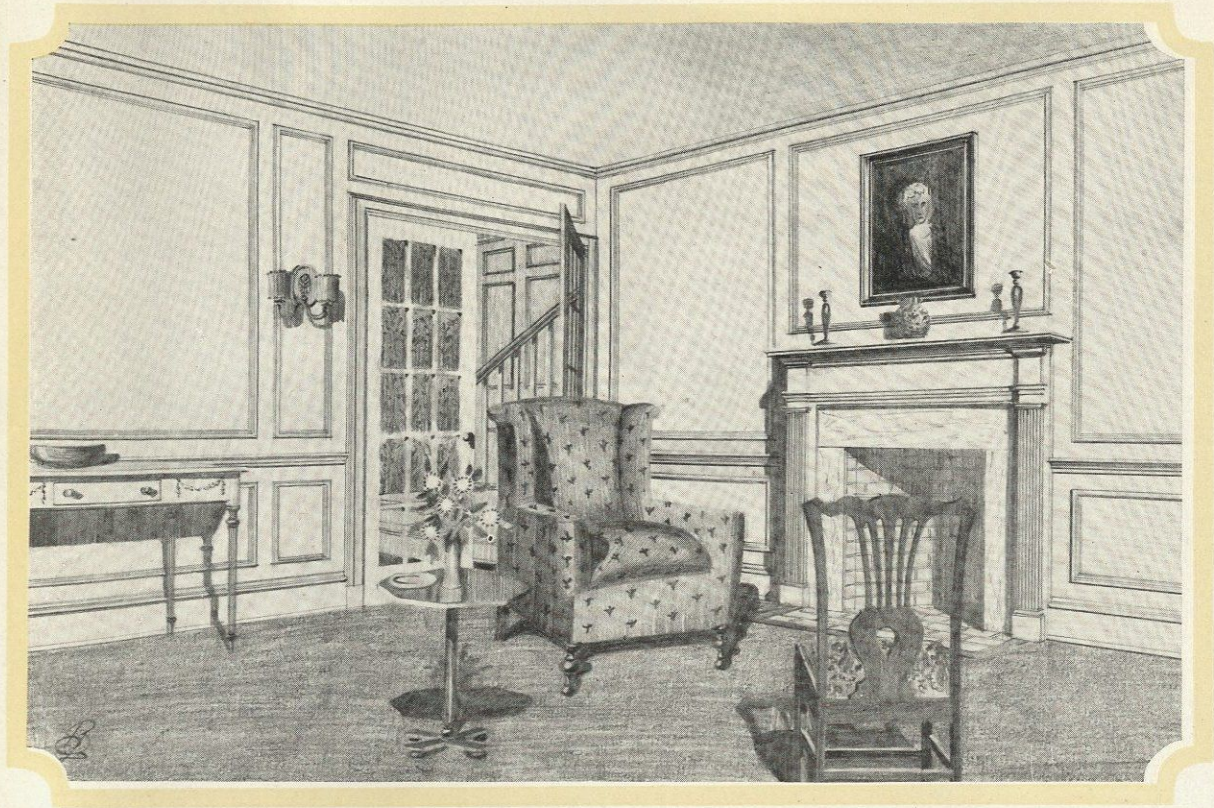
tiful Colonial Design



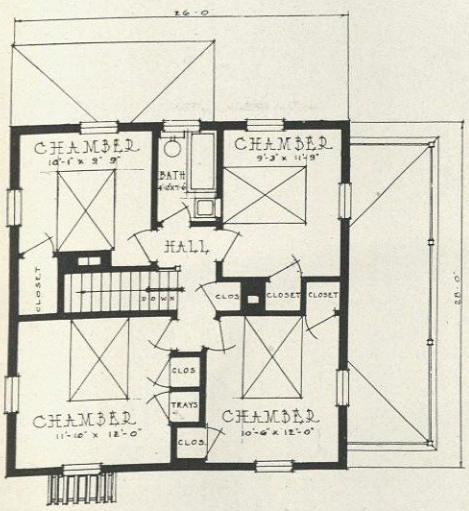
22—Colonial

this room supply sufficient light for the table in the daytime and make it cool and comfortable on warm days.

Notice how almost every inch of wall space in the kitchen is put to practical use. Two broad windows give good light to the equipment close at hand and the kitchen dresser and range on opposite sides of the room. Shelves can be placed in the rear entry and will not interfere with the refrigerator.

On the second floor there is a bedroom for each corner of the house, which means that each of these rooms can enjoy cross currents of air and can be well lighted in the daytime. Their closet accommodations are good, especially those of the two front chambers. Each chamber opens onto the hall which connects with the conveniently-arranged bathroom at the rear and has a closet built-in on one side for linen supplies.

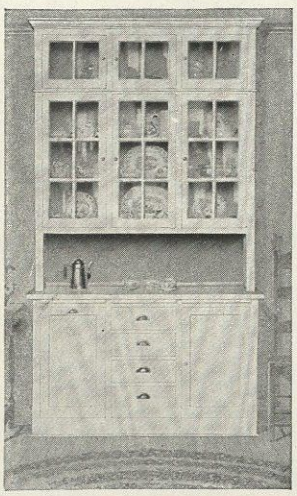
Amsden has two cellarways, one from the inside and one from the outside. A storage room beneath the kitchen connects with the drying room beneath the hall. Below the living room a coal bin is shut off by a slide from the furnace room beneath the dining room. All the basement rooms have at least one window.



26 in the introduction illustrate other
as of this basic plan.

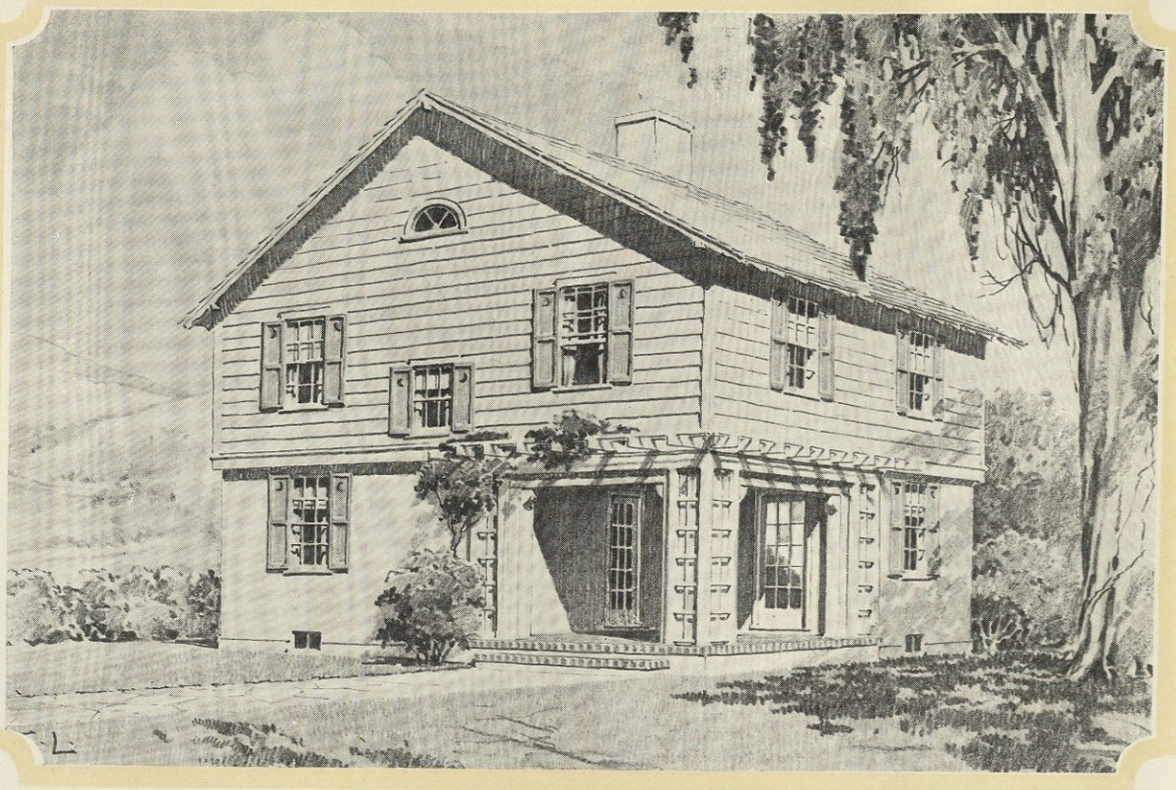
EXTERIOR WOODWORK. *Items of exterior woodwork, entrances, windows, shutters and porch material give the home its architectural character. Upon the design of these forms depends in a great measure the success of your home.*

Above all they must be weather-resisting. Curtis exterior woodwork is made only from those woods that will withstand the weather and that will take paint well. No hammer marks mar the finished surfaces. Nails are carefully set. The joints are filled with white lead. It is ready for the painter's brush.



C-750. Your kitchen furniture can be just as useful and attractive as that in other rooms of the house.

There Is Not An I

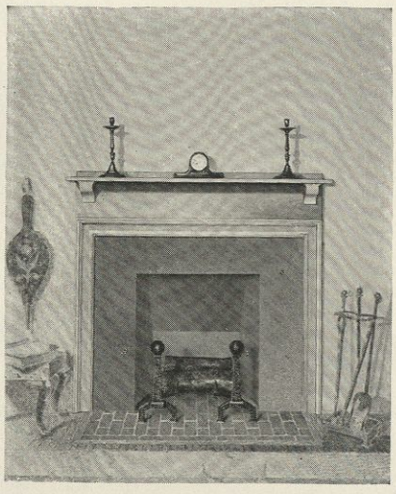


Primrose C-7

IN this Western design we find a splendid example of the economy of square type construction. (A square, you know, has the largest area for a given perimeter of all rectangles; hence the house approximating a square in its dimensions gives a maximum of room for a minimum expenditure for the construction of its walls.) Primrose should be built on a 40-foot lot, which will leave an ample lawn about it. Taking into consideration the location of the porch and of the living room, the most important room in the house, the best direction for this house to face is either south or west, and if the plan is reversed, an east frontage is possible. Any corner lot but the southwest will be a pleasant location for Primrose as it is, but when the plan is reversed that lot becomes the most desirable.

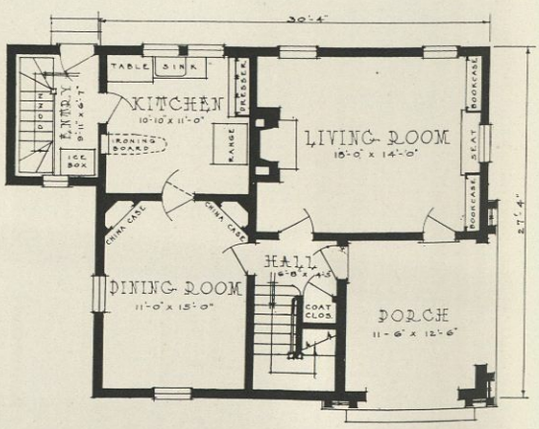
Screening will not mar the beauty of the porch but will serve to make it even more a part of the house than it already is—a pleasant outdoor living room almost as cozy and comfortable as the living room within, which has two means of access from this porch.

Look at the picture. Isn't this a cheery, peaceful dining room? With the windows on two sides, as you see in the picture, the china cases that fit in two corners of this dining



C-621. Deep recesses at the sides of the fireplace opposite the bookcases in Primrose accentuate the beauty of this simple mantel.

AN OVERHANGING SECOND STORY, *wide eaves, an interesting gable window, graceful trellises on a sheltered porch, quaint shutters, and windows and doors of good design—all combine to make the exterior of Primrose unusually attractive.*



Exteriors C-727 and C-728 in th architectural expression

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nch of Wasted Space

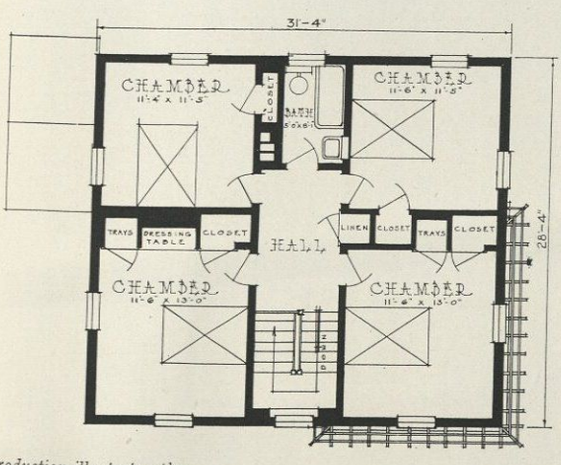
729—Western

room are certain to receive good light in the daytime. Notice the unbroken wall spaces that suggest a choice of locations for a movable buffet or a serving table which you will undoubtedly want to include among the furnishings for this room. The kitchen in Primrose is well equipped for service. The sink, dresser, worktable, the ironing board and the range have been located only after careful study of the plan.

Besides the usual closet with which each bedroom is equipped, two of the chambers have tray closets and one of these has a built-in dressing table in connection with its closets. Conveniences such as these give good service and always effect economy in the furnishing of the rooms in which they are built. The chamber with permanent dressing table needs little to complete its furnishings.

Primrose is a particularly excellent design for a combination stucco and siding construction. The porch columns form a pretty contrast with the creamy white or pearl gray walls. Such a treatment brings out the interesting details of this simple design and makes it not only a beautiful home to own but also a worthy improvement to the community in which it is built.

ONLY A FEW SIMPLE FURNISHINGS *are required to complete the living room, the fireplace, bookcases and seat having already accomplished much to this end. The dressing table and tray closets in the bedrooms have done much to minimize further expenditure in movable furniture.*



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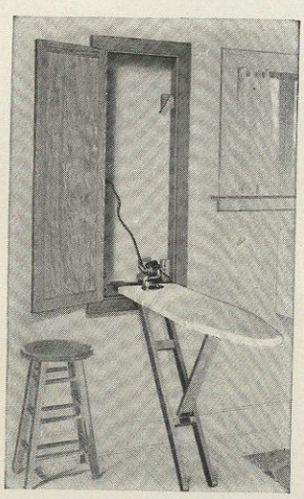
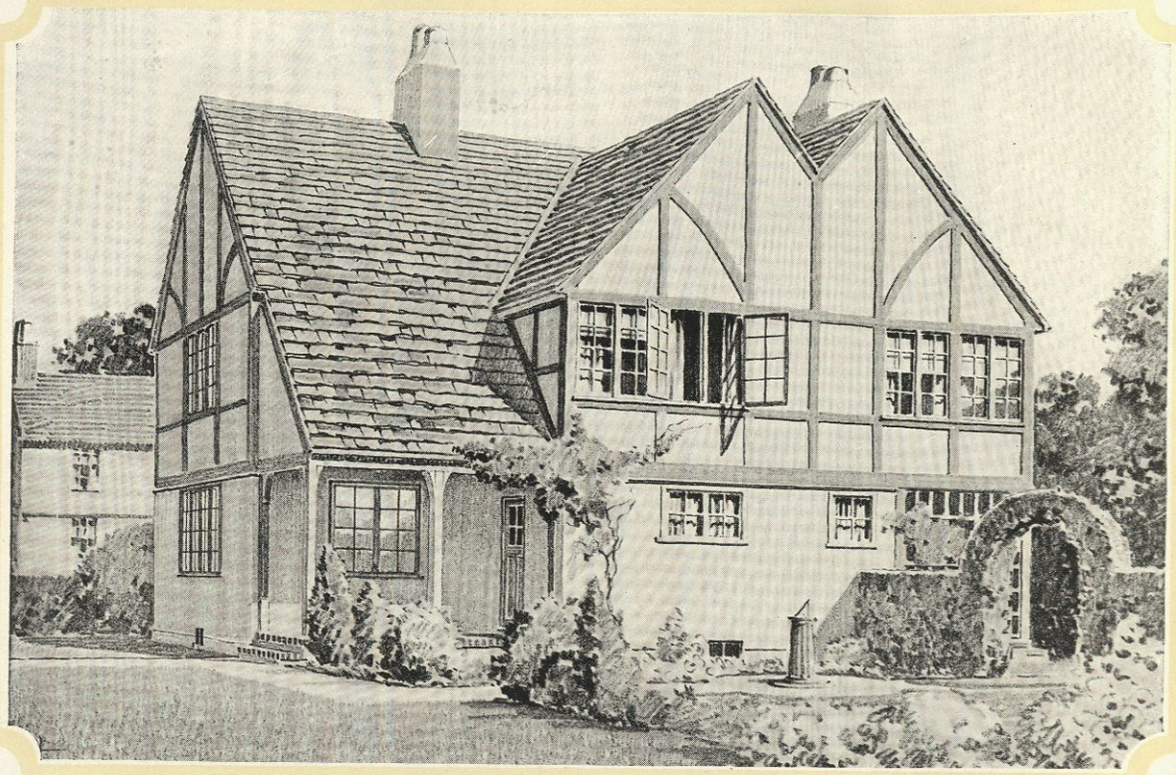


C-770. Two of the best things about the ironing board in a built-in case are solidity and adjustability

"I Could Be Well C

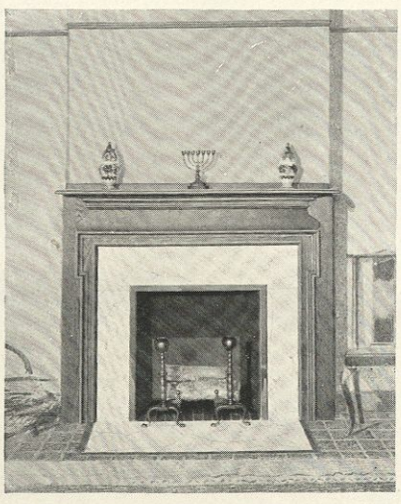


Marlan C-

MARLAN has such attractive elevations that it should be built on a corner lot, preferably a northwest corner, with a frontage of at least 50 feet on the east. Marlan can face the west if desired, or if the plan is reversed it can front upon the east. (By front or face is meant the end of the house upon which the living room appears.)

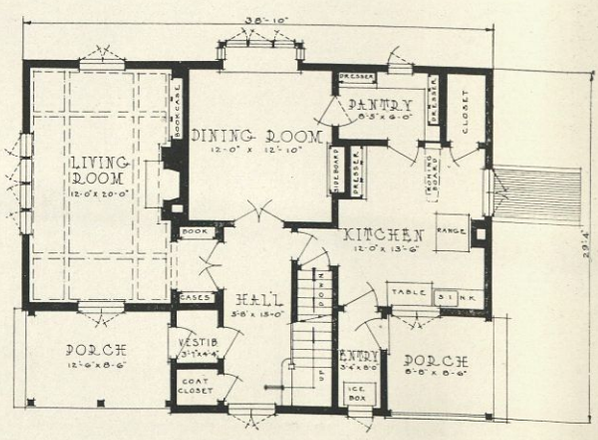
You may approach the entrance from either side and you come upon an inviting little porch over which the main roof of the house extends. A door of characteristic English type admits you into the vestibule, which is lighted by glass in the door. At the right in the hall is a coat closet with a shelf and with a mirror door which gives a full-length view. Before you is an impressive English stairway, C-913.

Note how secluded is the living room. Built-in bookcases utilize the sides of the passageway from the hall to the living room. The French doors give privacy to the living room but do not shut out the light. Similar doors between dining room and hall insure abundance of light to the stairway. Here is a living room worthy of the name! Casement sash in the front and on the ends give it splendid ventilation and an abundance



C-619.—Beauty in this mantel is a matter of interesting composition and subtle proportions. This design will be a feature in your home.

THIS HOUSE not only offers you a plan in which the rooms bear a most convenient arrangement to each other and in which there is the desired privacy in each room, but it also offers you a handsome exterior design.



Exteriors C-730 and C-731 in th architectural expression

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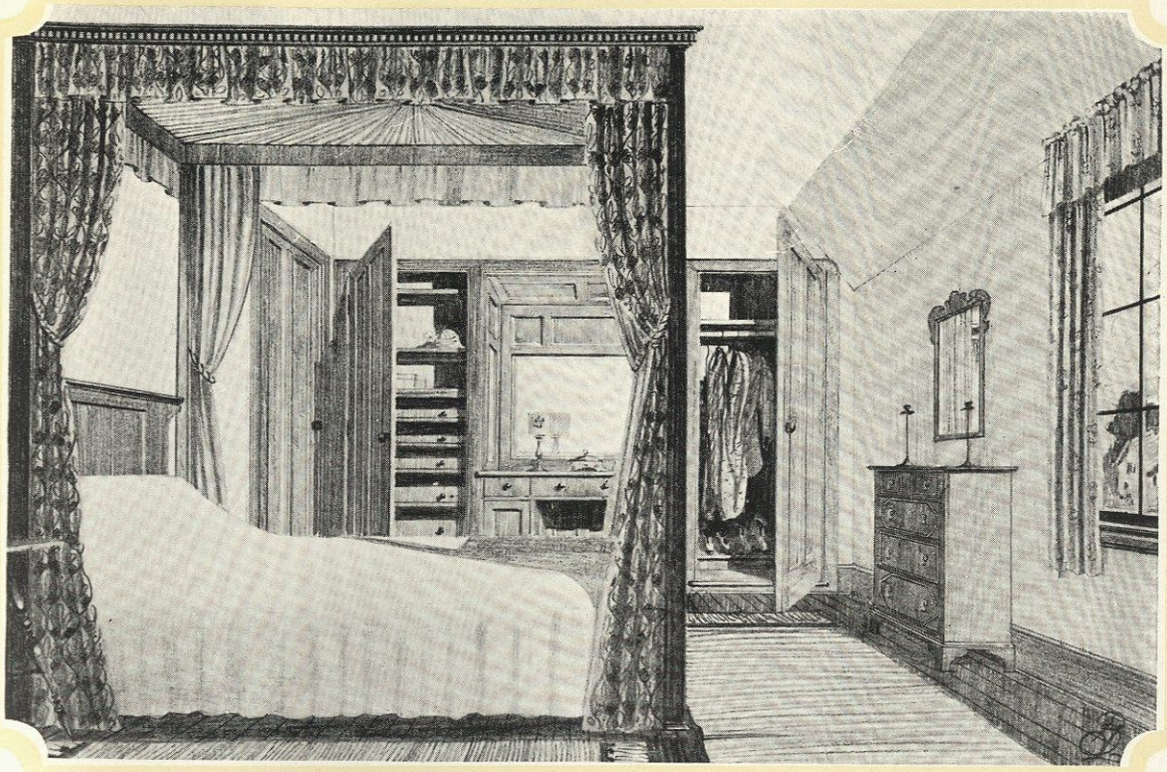
ontented to Be Here"



-732—English

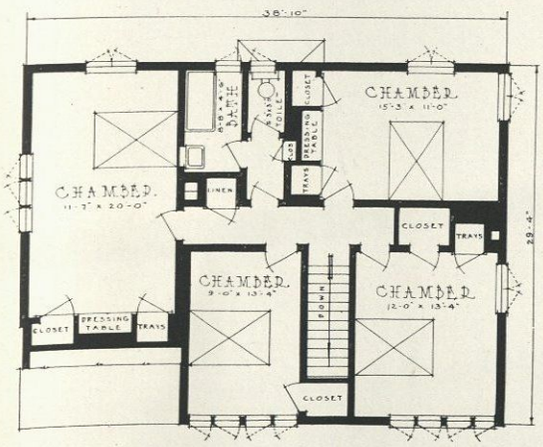
of light. They focus your attention upon the side of the room that is graced by a built-in bookcase and the mantel, C-619, which makes the fireplace a thing of beauty and comfort.

The dining room is quite as secluded as the living room. Notice the bay window where your potted plants will grow and bloom, and the built-in sideboard, C-714, that adds beauty and convenience to the room. Abundant wall space gives opportunity for attractive decorative treatment. The daylight pantry is equipped with dressers C-750 and C-752, that offer an abundance of storage space. There is another dresser in the kitchen, also a large closet with shelves, and an ironing board in a built-in case, C-770. The refrigerator is placed in the daylight entry. Direct access is provided from the kitchen to the basement.

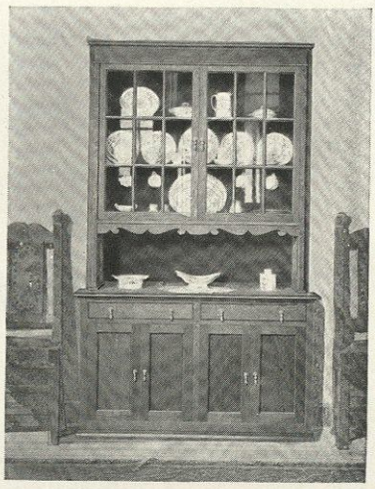
The bedrooms are comfortable, well-lighted and suggestive of delightful furniture. Two of the chambers have room-ends like that illustrated in the picture. With the built-in dressing table, tray case and hanging closet there is floor space left for other furniture.

There is a built-in linen closet, C-813, in the upstairs hall, handy to bedrooms and bath. The bathroom is divided into two parts, each one having the use of a casement opening.

IN THE MANUFACTURE OF CURTIS WOODWORK *each part is carefully sanded before it is placed in its final position, not by hand, but by machines that do their work quickly, evenly and true. Little hand sanding is necessary.*

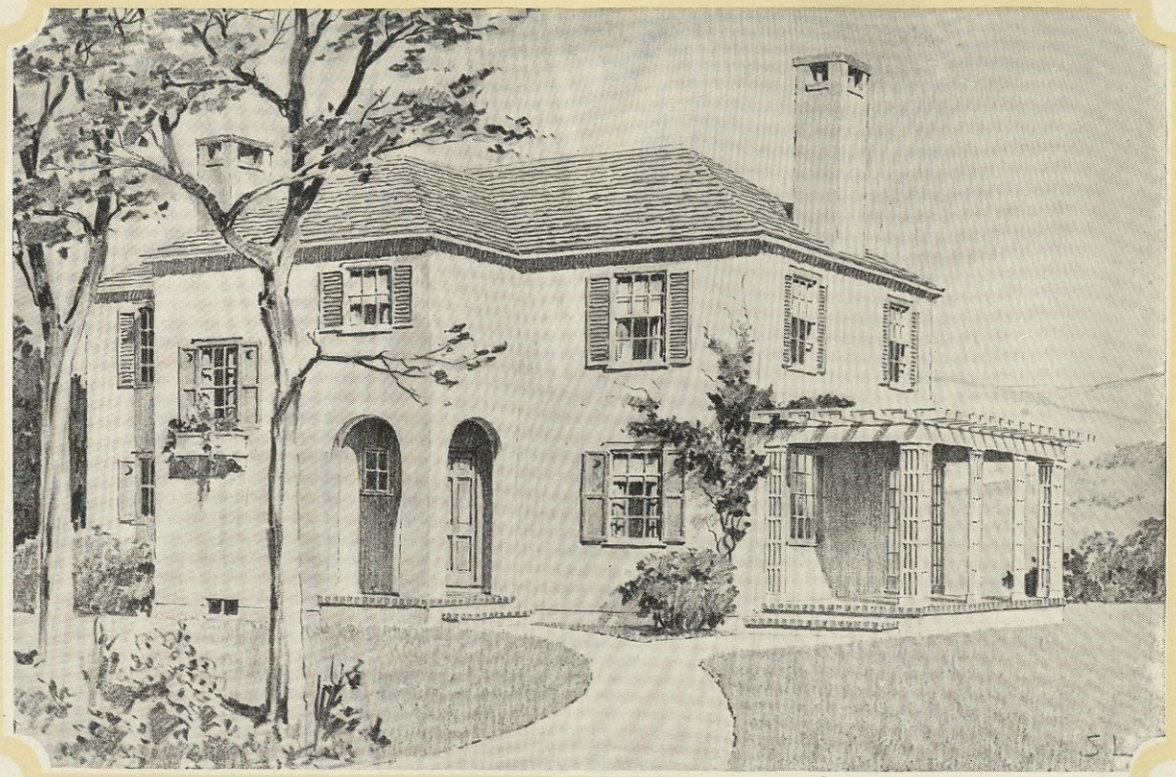


e introduction illustrate other s of this basic plan.



C-714.—Because this standard sideboard is produced in quantities, instead of one at a time, it is reasonable in cost.

Colonial Home In U

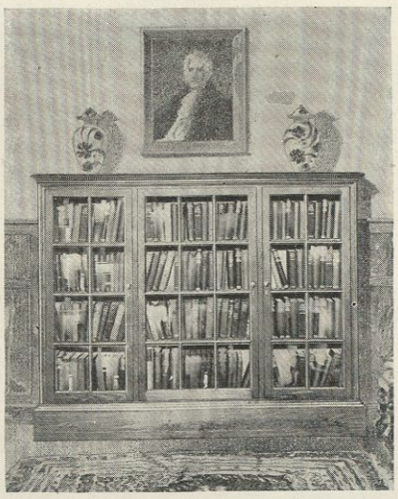


Belmont C-

NOTE in the picture how well adapted this home is to the corner lot. From either front or side it presents a pleasing facade. A 35- or 40-foot lot is all that Belmont requires, but given a wider lot it will be even more stately and dignified in appearance. While its most pleasant orientation is facing east, there are no objections to its facing any direction but north, which would necessitate much loss of sunshine for the rooms within and would put the porch on the shady side of the house. A touch of color in shingles, the two styles of shutters and flower box is charming.

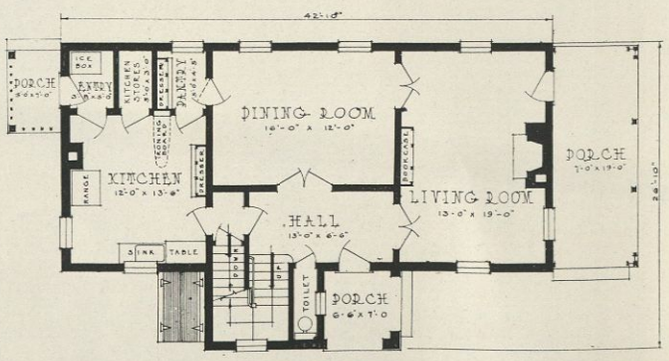
Light from windows on three sides is provided for the living room in Belmont, and on the fourth side from two pair of French doors that connect it with the dining room and the main hall. Excellent balance is attained between the mantel of good design on one side and the handsome permanent bookcase opposite.

From the dining room you get a view ot the hall and stairway as shown in the picture. Two windows on the opposite side of the room sufficiently light and ventilate it, and have considerable wall space between them. Furnishings, such as the buffet or sideboard, can be arranged appropriately against the side walls.



C-579. This permanent bookcase, set upon a pedestal 7⅞" high containing a drawer, occupies the living room wall opposite the fireplace.

A Charming Exterior. *This Colonial home is not at all the usual type; it is so unconventional in design as to claim your immediate attention. Arched openings admit you to the main entrance and, with the shuttered windows, are of more than usual interest in this exterior. A broad, livable porch with trellised columns and exposed rafter ends in pergola fashion is very attractive.*



Exteriors C-733, C-735, C-736 and C architectural expressi

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nconventional Design

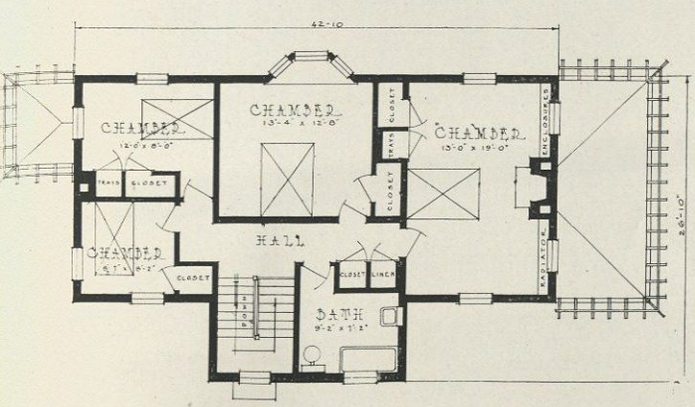
734—Colonial

With the handy pantry intervening between dining room and kitchen, you are certain not to be annoyed by the odor of cooking foods, when seated in the dining room. A built-in dresser in the pantry is convenient and very useful. Another is included in the kitchen equipment. Notice how conveniently all these things are arranged. Besides the rear entry that supplements the kitchen, by providing a place for the refrigerator, there is also a storeroom for supplies of every kind.

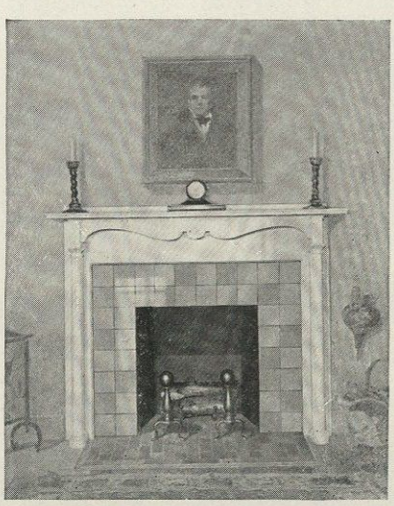
From the window at the turn of the stairway the halls on both floors receive plenty of light in the daytime. All but one of the four chambers receive light and air from more than one side and that chamber has a bay with triple windows. Good hanging closets and tray closets are plentiful. In the largest chamber there is a fireplace whose warmth will be comfortable to dress and undress by on wintry days and in the spring and fall when it isn't really cold enough for a furnace fire.

In the hall close to the well-arranged bathroom you will find a closet for storage use and another fitted with shelves for holding an ample supply of bed linens, towels and such things. These conveniences are well located in relation to the second floor bedrooms.

TRADEMARK VALUE. *Next to our children, perhaps, comes our home in the list of things of which we want to be proud. The Curtis trademark is a pledge that the manufacturer has left nothing undone which will add to the quality of their woodwork. Each piece passes a rigid inspection and is trademarked before it is shipped.*



-737 in the introduction illustrate other ons of this basic plan.



C-616. White enamel as a finish for the living room mantel is appropriate in the Colonial house.

1855 CURTIS WOODWORK

A Splendid Plan a

Morton C-7

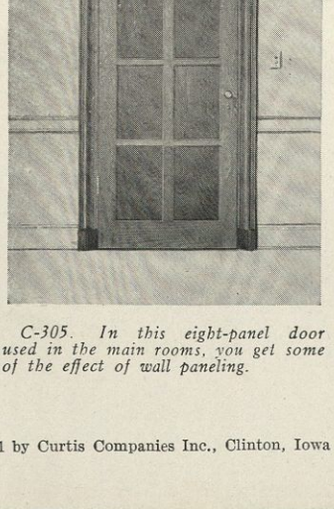
THE house is of English type. Notice its carefully molded cornice. The roof has the characteristic spring of its English prototype and the porch posts and front entrance employs brackets that carry out the design.

The house requires a lot with a 50-foot frontage. It can face in any direction, but a south front is preferred because that puts the living room on the east and the sleeping porch on the southwest.

The four lights in the front door, C-229, make a light vestibule and the hall is brightened by light passing through the glazed door that opens onto the porch. The beauty of the English stairway, C-912, will be at once apparent to visitors in this home.

What is a more natural accompaniment for wall paneling in a living room than a fireplace and a bookcase? Both of these items, the mantel design, C-620, and the bookcase design, C-580, are things to enjoy in Morton.

French doors from the hall to the dining room and from the dining room to the open porch, and casement sash on the side and in the rear, make a dining room that is unusually



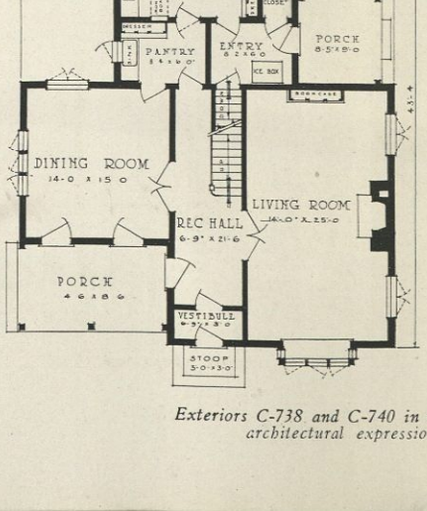
C-305. In this eight-panel door used in the main rooms, you get some of the effect of wall paneling.

Here It Is

THAT SEVEN-ROOM HOUSE with an attic, a back stairway, three large bedrooms, a maid's room, a sleeping porch, a big living room with a fireplace, a daylight pantry, a large back entry and a central hallway. Morton is just a home, nothing more and nothing less. There is no pretense about it.

It is roomier than it looks and is so conveniently arranged that its plan should be studied time and again for an appreciation of its value.

Contrast the appearance of the sleeping porch with its battery of casement sash, with many of the present day afterthought additions serving this necessary purpose.



Exteriors C-738 and C-740 in th architectural expressions

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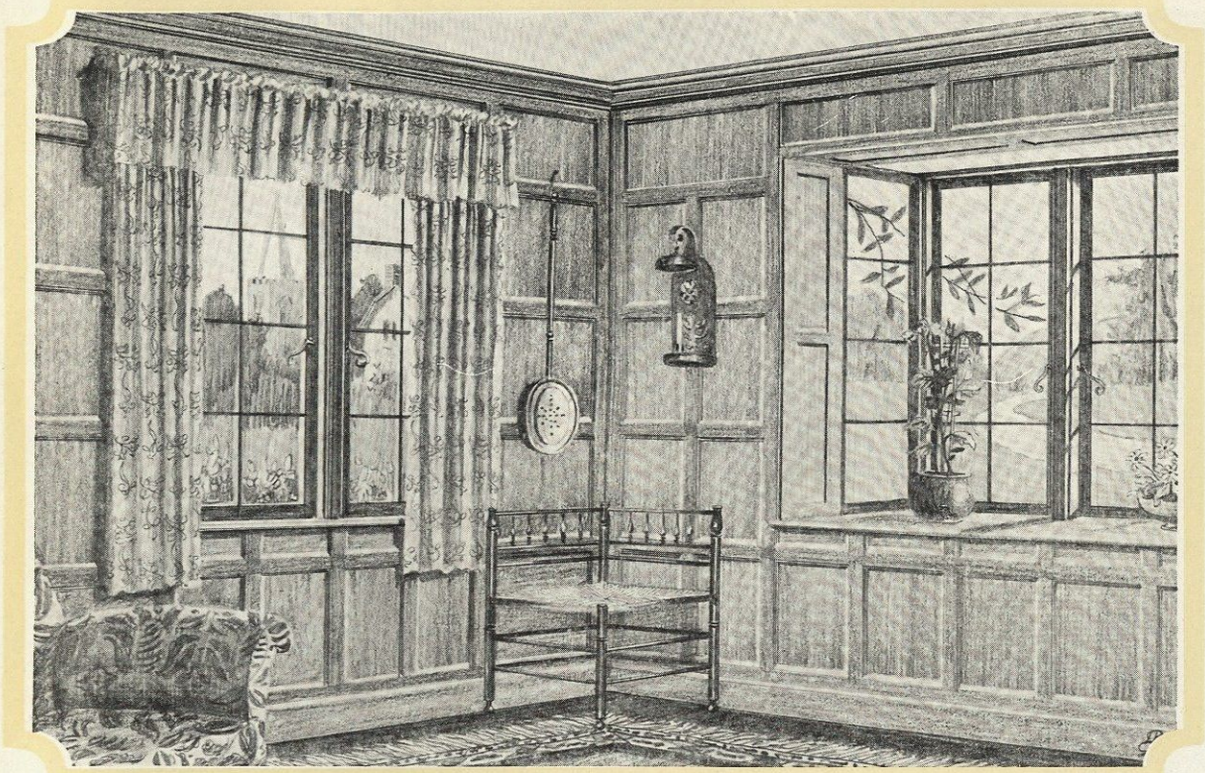
nd a Beautiful Home



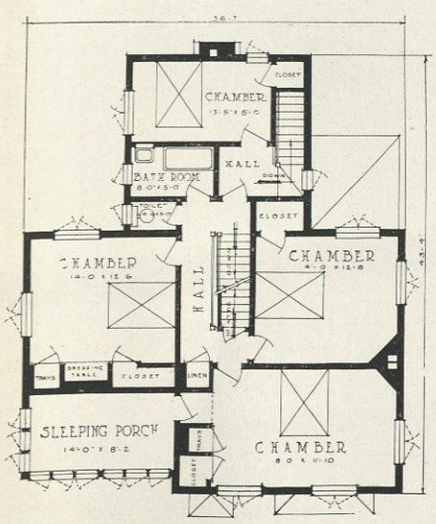
739—English

bright and cheerful all day long. Notice how this room is secluded, not only from the living room but also from the kitchen. A butler's pantry intervenes between it and the latter.

The built-in ironing board, C-770, dresser, C-750, and worktable, C-762, are items of permanent furniture in the kitchen that make it an efficient workshop. The rear entry affords a splendid place for the refrigerator.

The door at the head of the stairs on the second floor can be closed most of the time, shutting off the maid's room. The family bedrooms in Morton are all corner rooms. Each bedroom has a large closet and one chamber has a combination tray case, dressing table and hanging closet. The front chamber has direct communication with the sleeping porch.

The attic in Morton is another story itself. There is space for three bedrooms, sizes 10 feet by 14 feet, 10 feet by 11 feet and 9 feet by 10 feet, each lighted and ventilated by a dormer window and each having a good closet. In these attic rooms you will immediately recognize possibilities as servants' quarters, playrooms for the children in inclement weather or valuable storage places if not otherwise used.

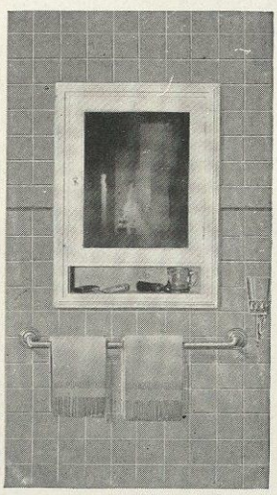


introduction illustrate other of this basic plan.

Wall Paneling

No Better Background for your interior furnishings can be found than wall paneling or a paneled wainscot. In houses of the English type the former is more appropriate. That which is recommended for use in Morton is illustrated elsewhere in this portfolio and follows the design expressed in the illustration of door C-305 at the left.

Because of its great size when set up, wall paneling when shipped is carefully packed in its respective units, the panels and the moldings surrounding them. The panels are carefully sanded and finishing costs are thereby reduced. They are selected as to color and grain.



C-816. There are shelves within the bathroom medicine cabinet for medicines and toilet articles.

Contains More Roo

1966 CURTIS WOODWORK

Alandar C-8

WHEN Alandar is built on a 50-foot lot, it will have about it a generous lawn, and room for a garden patch in the rear. It can face in any direction. If built on the lot that faces west, the plan should be reversed. You can tell from the picture that Alandar is particularly well suited to a corner lot.

From the interior picture you get some idea of the pleasant living room. Notice the beautiful design of its mantel and the French paneling that breaks its wall surfaces in pleasing proportions. Four windows and a pair of handsome French doors are the means of abundant light in the daytime.

Of interest in the dining room is the bay with the triple windows. It amply lights all things in this room, even the Colonial china case, C-700, in one corner. French doors are one of the three entrances and when open, permit a view of the main hall with its open stairway of Colonial design, C-904. A double-action door opens into a butler's pantry that separates the kitchen from the dining room.

This butler's pantry prevents kitchen odors from penetrating to the dining room;

C-904. The first flight of the stair in Alandar is longer than shown here, but this shows you the beauty of the Colonial stairway.

ALANDAR has plenty of room. Besides the eight principal rooms, there are a livable porch, a bathroom and two good sized halls. Alandar is an ideal home for the family that requires a large house with a pleasing though not an expensively adorned exterior.

In the most out-of-the-way corner of the first floor is a den which adapts itself nicely as a study or library. There is ample light and plenty of wall space for bookcases

Exteriors C-805 and C-806 in architectural expressi

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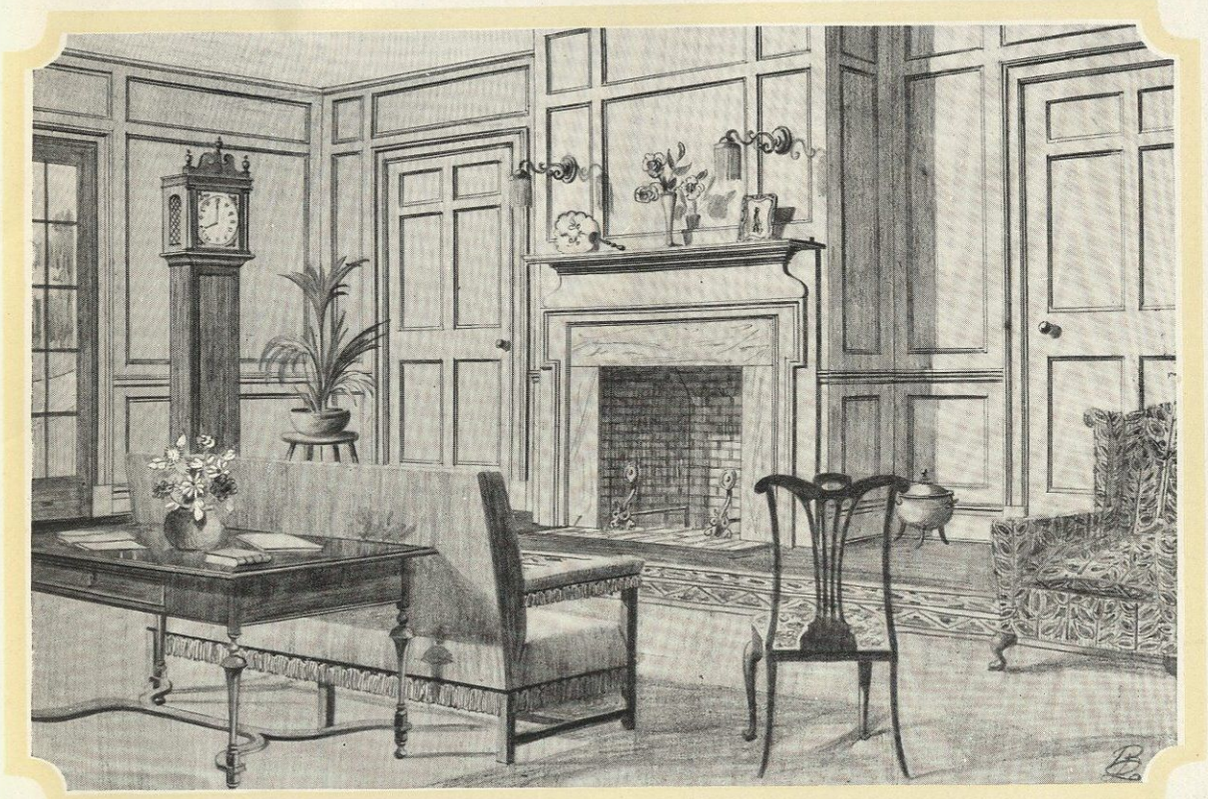
m Than You Think

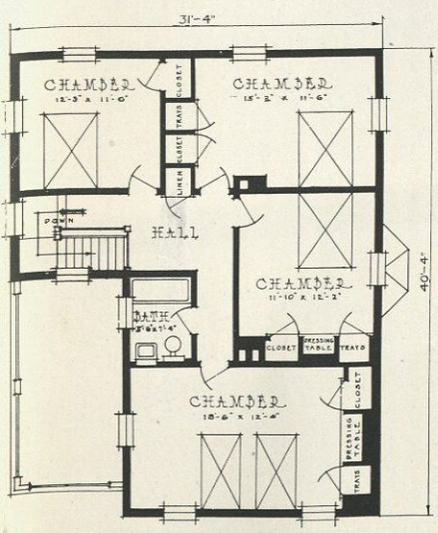


304—Colonial

and because it is fitted with a built-in cupboard and a sink with a drain board, it is extremely useful. All the kitchen equipment receives good light in the daytime from the double windows at the rear. The refrigerator is placed out in the entry where the iceman can reach it without coming into the kitchen.

All bedrooms on the second floor but one have windows on two sides, and each one is well equipped with closet space. The two larger bedrooms have stationary dressing tables built-in between their closets. They require little space but give maximum utility. Notice the convenient arrangement of the bathroom fixtures and how this room is lighted and ventilated by one broad window. The bathroom is brought within easy reach of all bedrooms by the central hall, onto which all upstairs rooms open and which has a linen closet built-in between the two rear bedrooms where it will be handy to all the upstairs rooms.

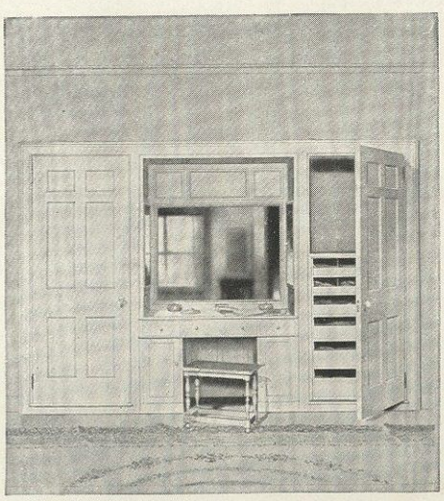
There are wonderful opportunities here for landscape effects that will bring out the beauty of this simple design. Only the commonest and most inexpensive materials are used in the construction of Alandar.



the introduction illustrate other ons of this basic plan.

ONE PRINCIPLE *of correct design demands that any portion of a woodwork item be no larger or heavier than the use put upon that portion requires.*

Curtis stair parts follow this principle exactly. They are designed to do their work efficiently, producing a completed stair that is strong and beautiful. Contrast the beauty of the stair shown at the left with many of the heavy and more cumbersome forms in use today.



C-810. When most of the furniture in the bedroom is built-in, more floor space is left for the bed and for chairs. Behind the left door is a closet.

Eight Rooms Plus,

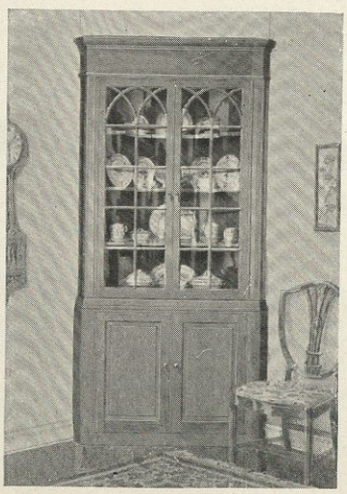
Litchfield C-

LITCHFIELD will go comfortably on a 60-foot lot that faces south, north or east. It will be exceptionally imposing when facing east, for this will put the living room on the south while the dining room will enjoy the early morning sun. If reversed, the house can face the west, too, and so it can be built on any corner lot as well as any inside lot.

Particularly attractive in design is the front vestibule that juts out from the rest of the house and forms one of the most prominent architectural features of the exterior.

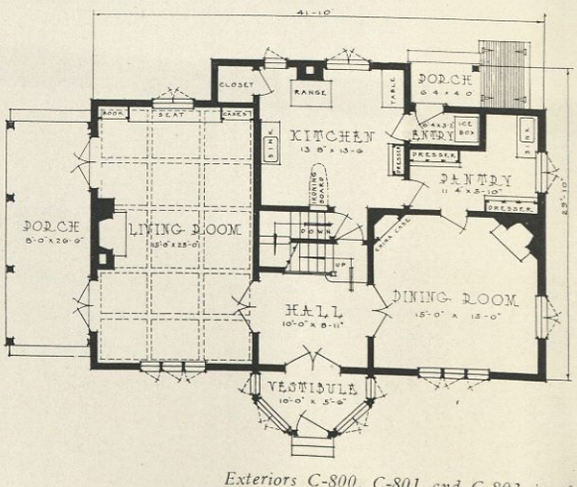
Your visitor will be impressed with the spacious front hall and the beautiful English stairway, C-910, whose broad side he will first see. French doors separate both living room and dining room from this hall. Doors of similar pattern, open upon the side porch that should command your most attractive view. The fireplace with its mantel, C-621, the permanent bookcase and window seat, C-598, are architectural details of the living room that make it both interesting and homelike.

Light and ventilation from two sides reach the dining room. In one corner is a fireplace to add cheer to your meals, whose beauty is enhanced by mantel C-619. Another



C-702. *To balance the interest and attractiveness of the fireplace in the dining room, this china closet is also built-in.*

EIGHT ROOMS PLUS. *In this handsome residence there are eight rooms plus a comfortable, very well lighted room on the second floor, termed as the "sewing room." You can use it for a library, home office, even a play room, for you already have five good sleeping rooms.*



Exteriors C-800, C-801 and C-803 in the expressions of this basic plan.

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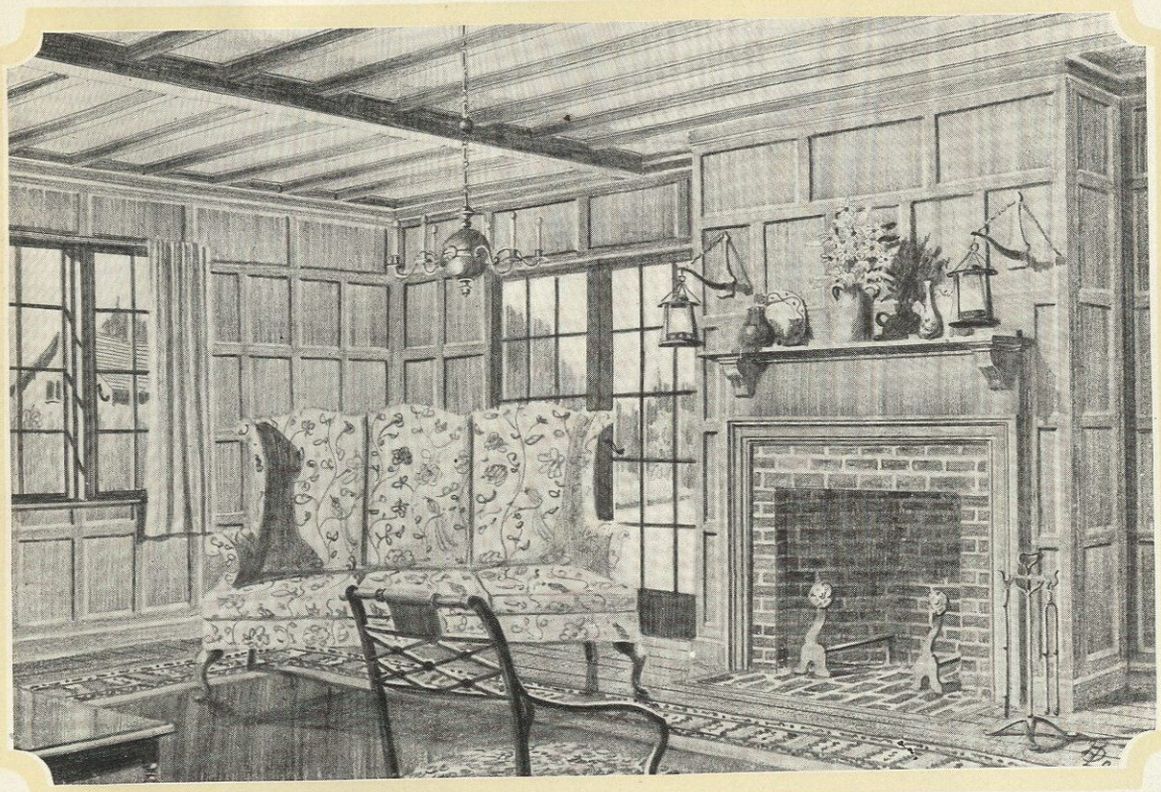
and English Beauty



802—English

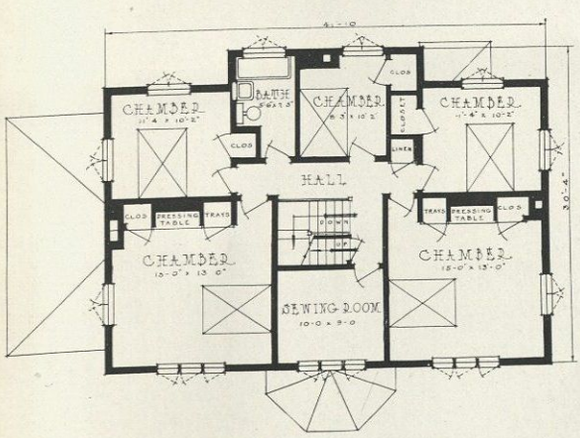
corner is fitted with a china case whose unusual beauty is brought out effectively by light from casement sash on two sides. Still there is plenty of space for furnishings other than the necessary table and chairs.

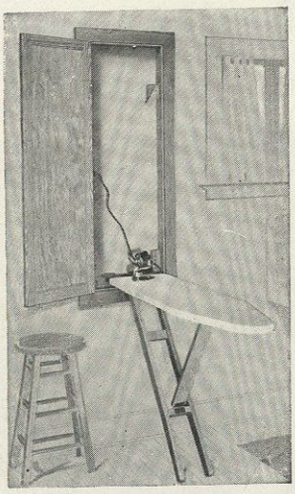
The roomy daylight pantry with its dressers, C-750, and its sink; the kitchen with the built-in ironing board, C-770, a closet, worktable, C-762, and dresser, C-752; and the entry for the refrigerator are service rooms that deserve your careful study.

Notice that there is an inside access to the basement as well as one from the outside. This will be convenient to use from the kitchen and because it connects directly with the main hall it will be unnecessary to go through the dining room and kitchen from the living room to tend the furnace.

On the second floor you find two large bedrooms and three smaller ones. All but the smallest have windows on two adjacent sides, which means good light in the daytime and comfort at night. The two front chambers have combination hanging closets, dressing tables and tray cases, and in addition there is a built-in linen closet in the hall. A well-lighted sewing room is located between the two front chambers.

PRACTICAL, CONVENIENT AND CLEAN. *Ready for use yet never in the way; free from dust; will not warp, split nor crack; adjustable to any height; stable and strong; not heavy to lift—these are some advantages of this ironing board and case that will cost you but a few cents a week to own.*





C-770. There is no pinching of fingers when taking down or putting up this built-in ironing board.

introduction illustrate other architectural
lso see C-803 in the portfolio.

1868 CURTIS WOODWORK

Here Is Comfort, Con

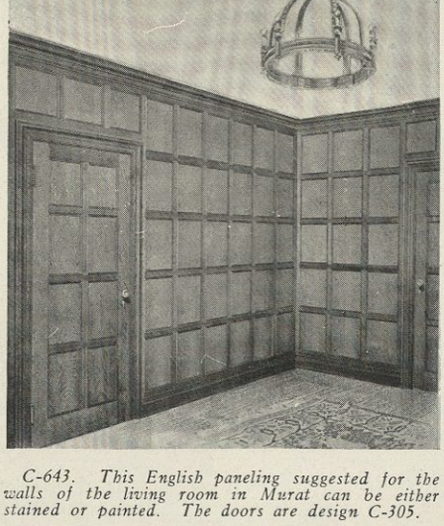
Murat C-8

WITHIN this interesting home there are eight comfortable rooms brimming full of convenience and beauty. Each is assigned a special service and allotted the space required to make it both livable and enjoyable. In the artistic exterior of Murat there are many things that suggest the comforts within; for instance, the many groups of casement sash that promise abundant sunshine for all its rooms.

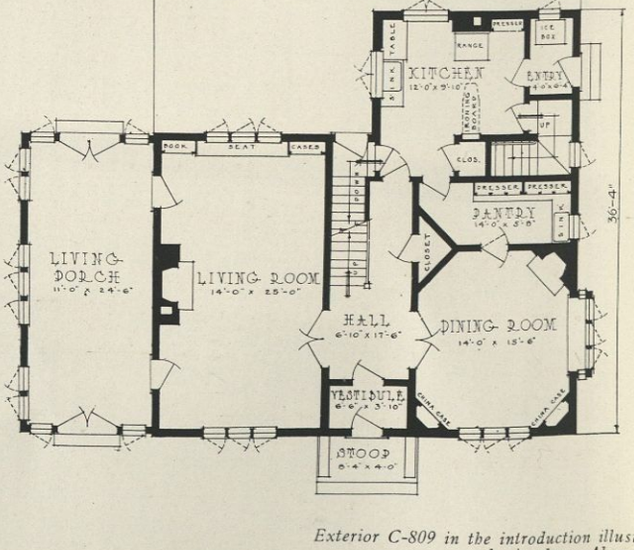
This house will look well on a 60-foot lot that faces either the north, south, or east. The latter frontage is ideal. If the plan is reversed, the house could be built on a lot facing the west. Murat will fit any corner lot, being particularly good with the plan as it is, on the northwest corner facing east; or with the plan reversed, on the southeast corner facing north.

A well-lighted vestibule shuts off cold air from the central hallway. Note the direct access from the kitchen to the front door, a convenience for the maid when answering the doorbell, which this hall permits.

The huge living room will be a continual joy. The permanent bookcases and built-in seat in one end are important elements in its furnishings, and the fireplace with mantel,



C-643. This English paneling suggested for the walls of the living room in Murat can be either stained or painted. The doors are design C-305.



Exterior C-809 in the introduction illustrat basic plan. Also C-8

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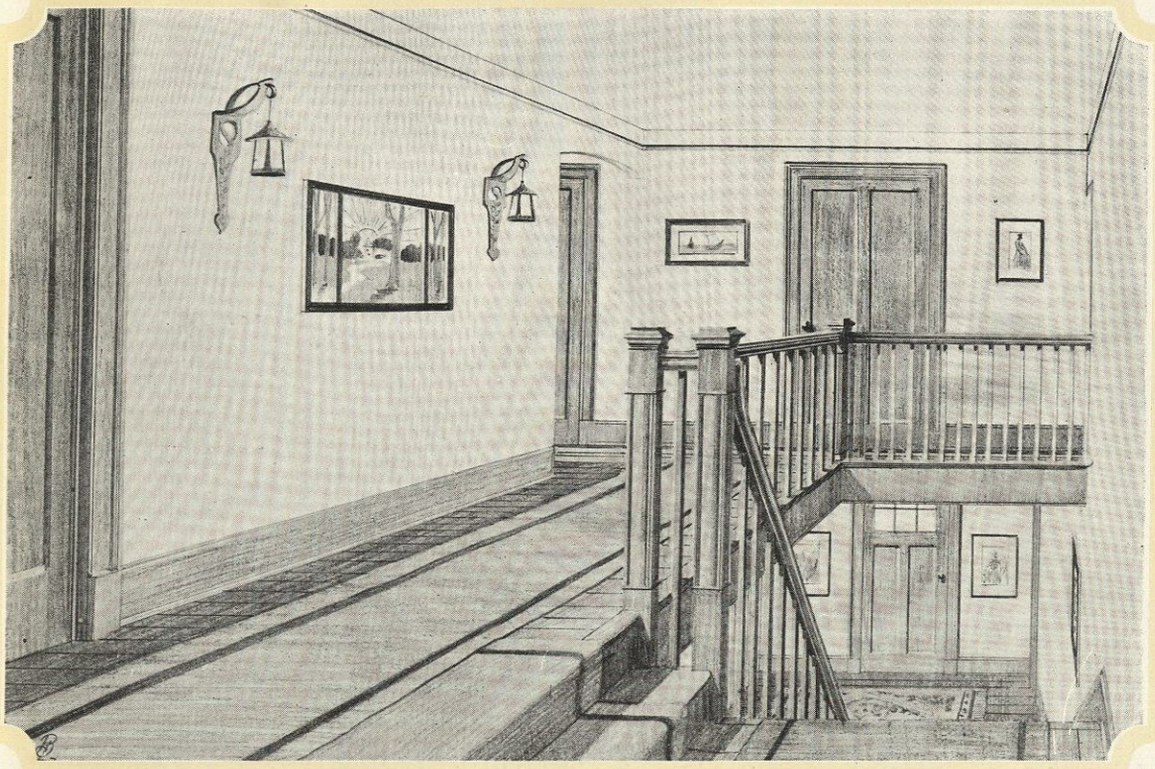
venience and Beauty



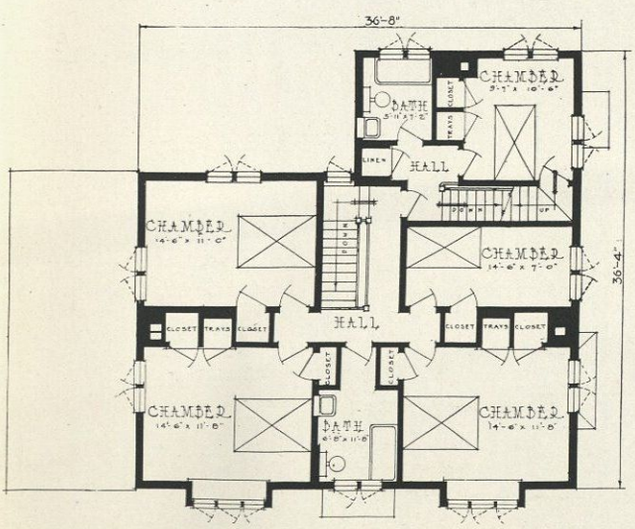
808—English

C-620, is the center of interest. It is flanked on either side by glazed doors, C-231, opening upon the glass enclosed porch, which in summertime becomes the outdoor living room.

The dining room of Murat is octagonal in shape, having china closets, C-703, built-in in two corners and fireplace with mantel, C-621, in a third, while the fourth is cut off by the hall closet.

A roomy, daylight butler's pantry separates the kitchen from the dining room. It is equipped with two dressers, C-750, and a sink. Near the kitchen you will note the closet for brooms and extra table leaves and that is fitted with a shelf; and in the kitchen proper, you will notice a built-in ironing board, C-770, built-in dresser, C-752, and casement sash on two sides that give the room cross ventilation and light. The refrigerator is placed in the daylight entry.

The four main bedrooms upstairs are closely connected with the front bathroom just off the hallway. Each chamber has a good closet. The back stairway is directly connected with the rear bedroom and bathroom. This, of course, is very desirable in the home where a maid must be provided for.



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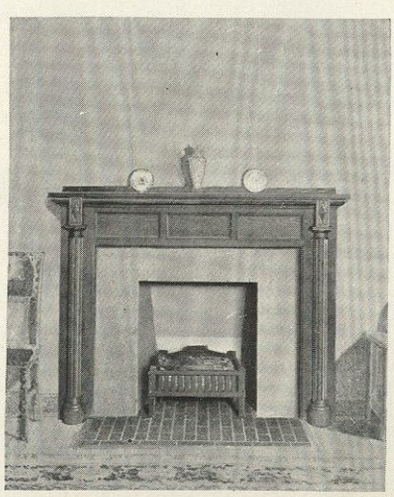
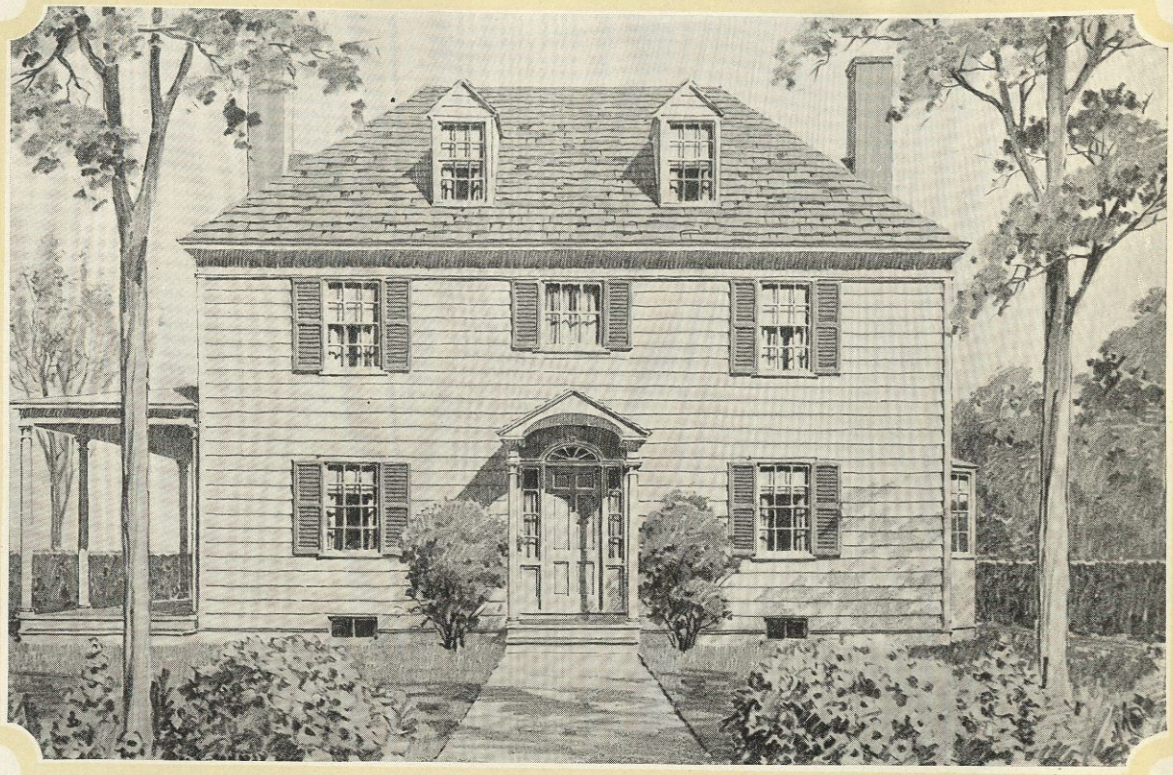


C-620. Here is a mantel that is good in this English house whether stained or painted. Its design is of unusual interest and beauty.

A Home for Both



Devonshire C

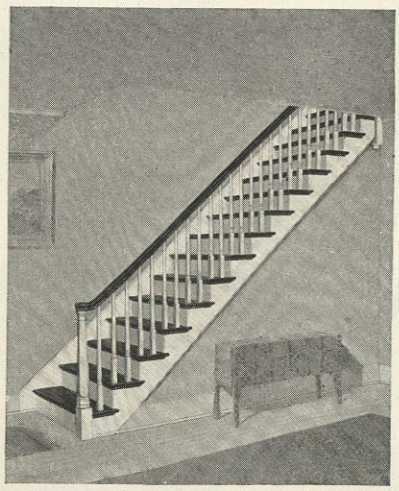
DOMESTIC help is a serious problem in houses without available servants' quarters. Devonshire is a house that offers not only a pleasant home for the family, but also a commodious bedroom for the maid, connected with its individual bathroom and reached by a back stairway.

This house will look well on a 60-foot lot that faces either the north, south, or east. The latter frontage is ideal. If the plan is reversed, the house could be built on a lot facing the west.

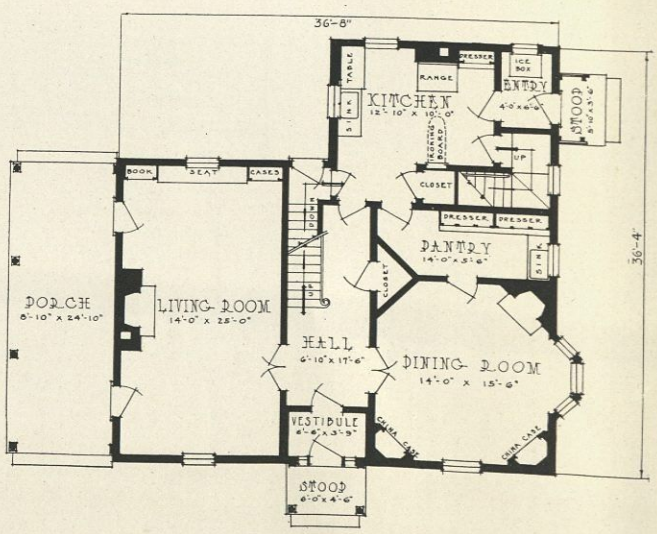
Devonshire is a Colonial design, with an attractive entrance, C-100. The symmetry of its design and the proportion of the dormers are typical of Colonial architecture.

Many are the landscape effects possible in the exterior treatment of this design. Vines about the porch posts will bring out the artistic beauty of the porch and afford more privacy for its occupants. Shrubs and a hedge about the grounds will add to Devonshire's formal dignity.

A well-lighted vestibule shuts off cold air from the central hallway. Wraps can be



C-907. Grace and dignity are evident in every line of the stairs in Devonshire. This Colonial design is used with voluted hand rail.



Exterior C-809 in the introduction illus this basic plan. Also

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h Family and Maid

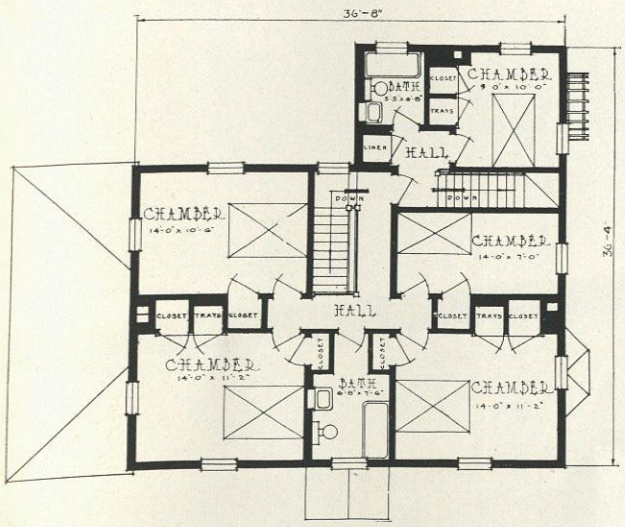
-807—Colonial

hung on hooks secured to the walls at the ends of the vestibule. Note the direct access from the kitchen to the front door, which this hall permits. And there is also in the hall a handsome stairway, C-908, a commodious closet and a handy approach to the basement stairs, that you must not overlook.

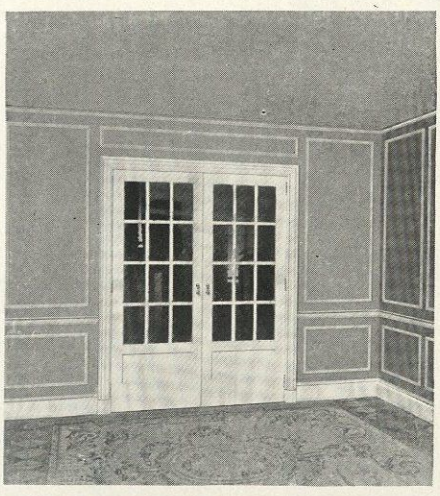
Across the hall, French doors admit you to a spacious dining room. It is octagonal in shape, having china closet, C-702, built-in in two of the corners and a fireplace with mantel, C-618, in a third, while the fourth is cut off by the hall closet. A bay window completes the architectural effect of this interesting arrangement.

A roomy, daylight butler's pantry separates the kitchen from the dining room. It is equipped with two dressers, C-750, and a sink. Near the kitchen you will note the closet for brooms and extra table leaves, and which is fitted with a shelf; and in the kitchen proper, is a built-in ironing board, C-770, built-in dresser, C-752, and windows on two sides that give the room cross ventilation and light.

The four main bedrooms upstairs are closely connected with the bathroom and are well lighted and ventilated.



trates another architectural expression of C-808 in the portfolio.



C-642. Here is a suggestion for the decorative scheme for the walls of your living or bedrooms. It is simply the placing of moldings on the walls.

A Side Entrance On

Truman C-8

THIS house should front upon the south, east or north. When built as it is shown here, Truman is good for any lot except the southeast and when the plan is reversed it can be built on that site.

With this house you have a big outdoor living room in the front porch. It should command your best view. Another porch forms a protection for the front entrance and for the bay window of the living room and it makes a good balance for the rear porch off the kitchen. The front door is a typical Western design, C-230, and it opens upon the central hallway in which you find stairway, C-911. The hall leads directly to the other side of the house where you may have a garden or your garage.

French doors shut off the hall from the living room. With windows on three sides you can imagine the cheerfulness in winter and the coolness in summer of this living room. Far removed from the activities of the porch and house, is the library secluded in a room off the hall. The room is lighted and ventilated by its own window. If this house were built by a professional man, he might use this library as an office, making his office entrance opposite the main entrance of the house.

C-311. A door with a full length mirror is of more use than you can fully appreciate unless you have had one.

UNLOOKED-FOR POSSIBILITIES. *Are you under the impression that eight rooms are impossible in a house on a 40-foot lot, or have you assumed that you can't have a side entrance without having the broad side of your house to the street? If so, Truman will be a surprise to you, for this house has eight rooms and it can be built on a 40-foot inside lot and the side entrance will still be one of its most attractive features. If you have a corner lot Truman will be an ideal home for that location.*

Exteriors C-810 and C-811 in t
architectural expressio

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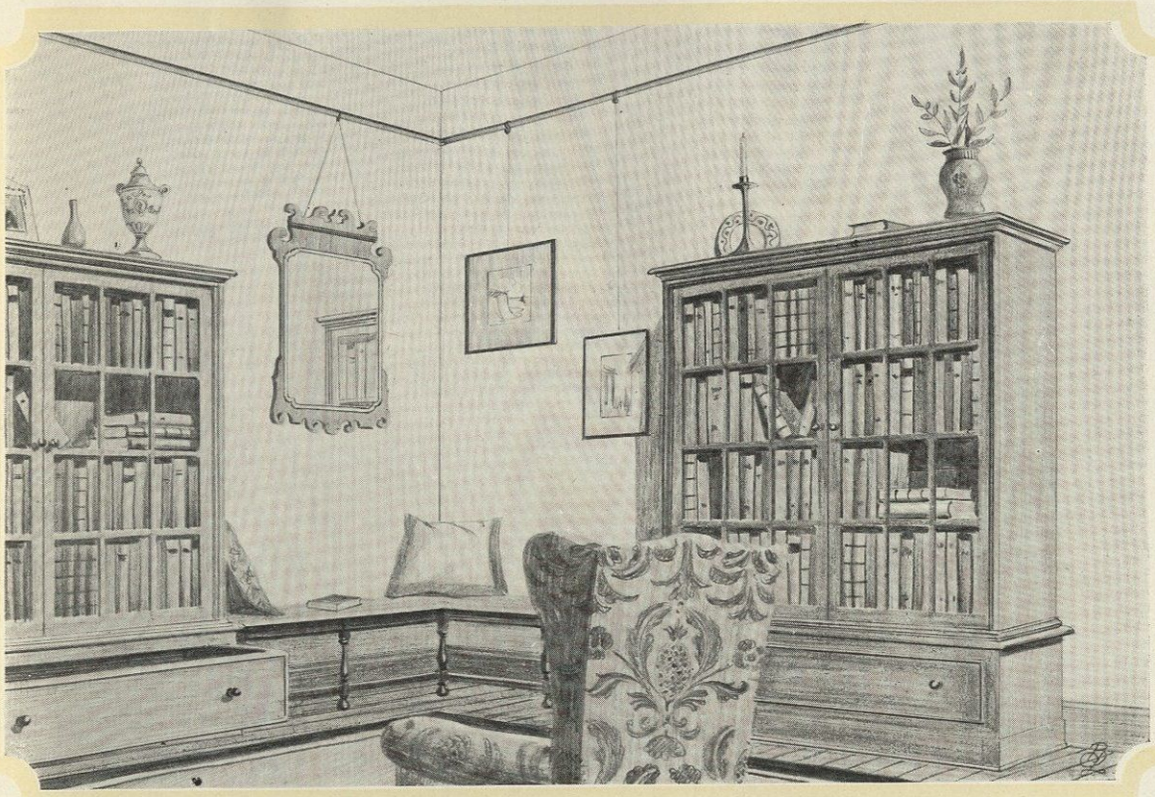
a Narrow Inside Lot



12—Western

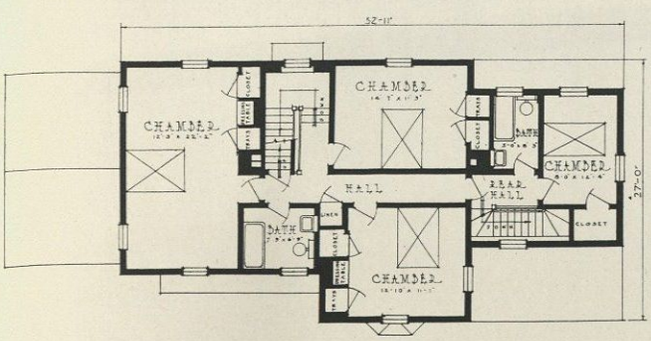
Notice the built-in cupboards, C-750, in the daylight pantry. Another cupboard, C-752, is found in the kitchen along with the built-in ironing board, C-770. The refrigerator is in an entry away from the heat of the kitchen range. A daylight closet with shelves provides a storage place for kitchen accessories. Don't overlook the back stairway in this house and the rear bedroom and bathroom upstairs, with which it is directly connected. This arrangement will be very attractive to your domestic help if you intend to have help. If not, you will find it saves the housewife many steps in the performance of household duties.

In addition to the rear chamber upstairs, which is suggested for the help, and which has its own bathroom and a closet with shelves, Truman has three other commodious bedrooms. Two of them have the combination tray case, dressing table and hanging closet. All of the rooms are well lighted and ventilated, the large one particularly.

The bathroom is so close to all these chambers that it is as good as a private bath for each of them. Its fixtures are well arranged. A closet in the hall with shelves, offers a place for linen and toilet supplies, thus adding to the conveniences of this home.

LASTING BEAUTY. *The many pieces of permanent furniture included in Truman give lasting beauty to its interior of which you will never tire. More important, possibly, to the intensely practical man is the genuine utility of these features, which make any home a better place in which to live.*

Bay windows in the living and dining rooms provide additional floor space and add interest to the exterior.



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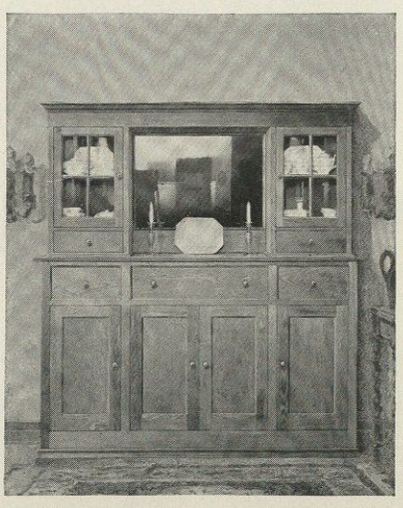
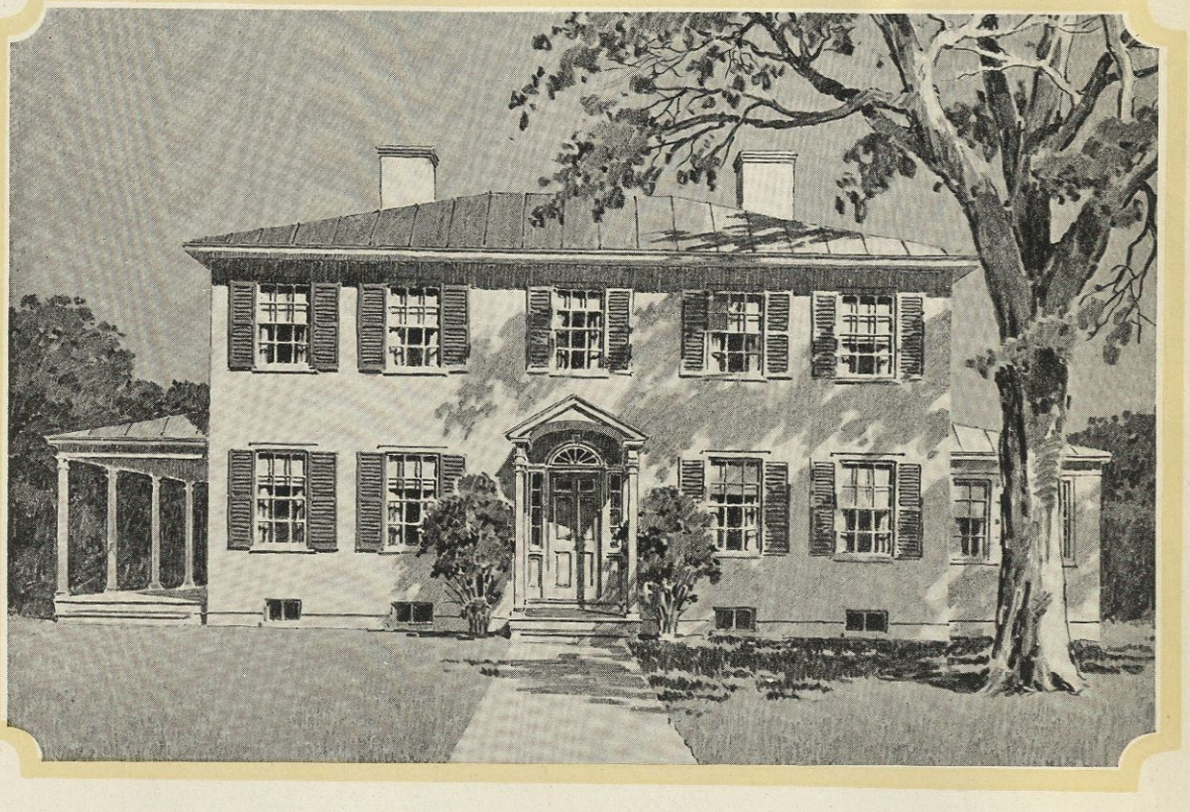


C-715. In addition to a place for china, this dining room sideboard provides drawers and cabinets for linen, silver and other things.

1936 CURTIS WOODWORK

Your Children's He



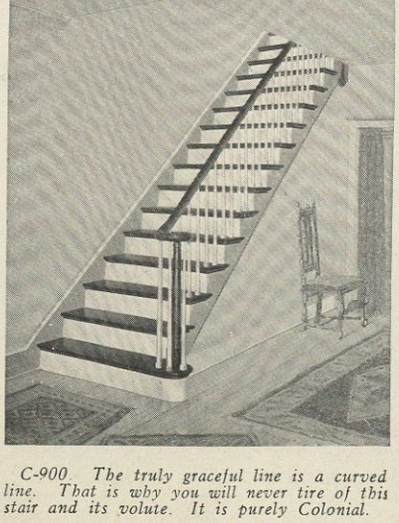
Erlton C-81

YOU should have an 80-foot lot for this home and it should front either the south or the north. If there is a bit of garden about it, all the better; the house will form the center of interest of the landscape. It would be charming upon any corner lot.

A dignified entrance welcomes you into the impressive central hallway. You pass through French doors, C-321, and come into the living room. A view of the living room is shown in the picture of the interior. Notice the bookcase in one corner by the fireplace. Bookcases, C-585, line the passage from the living room to the library and a bookcase, C-584, in the library itself offers more room for these silent friends.

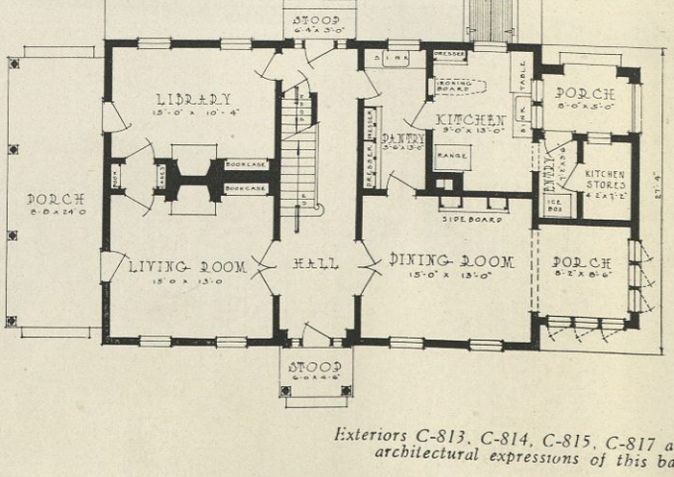
From the hall in the front of the house, you reach the dining room and a vista similar to that in the living room is presented as you look toward the porch that enjoys the morning sunlight.

Opposite those into the living room another pair of French doors, C-321, open into the dining room. A handsome built-in sideboard, C-712, graces one side of the dining room, effecting an economy in its furnishings.



C-900. The truly graceful line is a curved line. That is why you will never tire of this stair and its volute. It is purely Colonial.

A Worthy Heritage. *Give your children a worthy heritage, one to be proud of; build them a home that will be pleasant and comfortable to live in years after you have built it. Built of the best materials, correct in design and therefore always in good taste, this home will last for ages.*



Exteriors C-813, C-814, C-815, C-817 and architectural expressions of this basic

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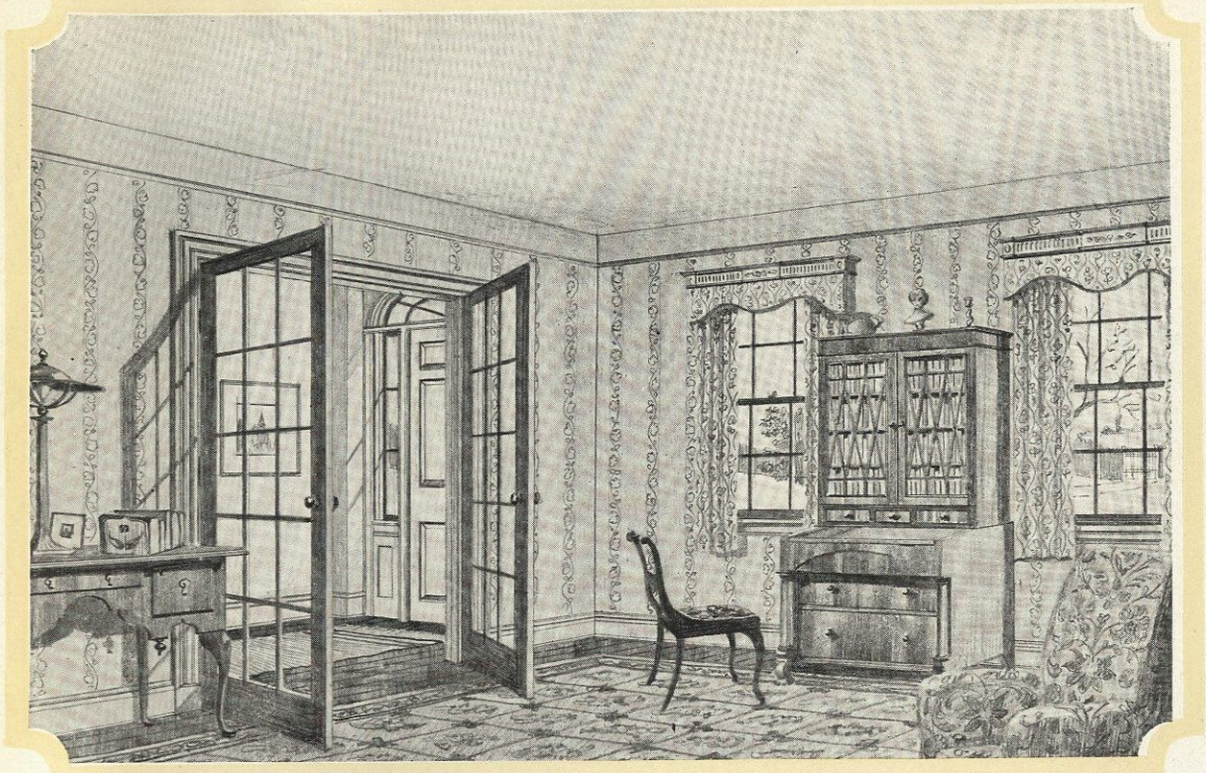
eritage: This Home



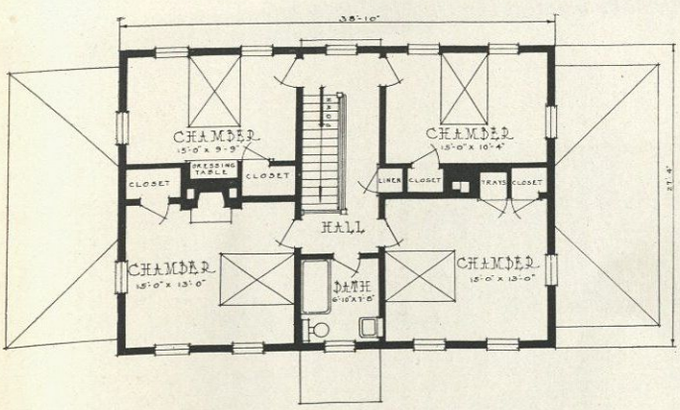
16—Colonial

The dining room is not permeated with odors from the kitchen, for the two rooms are separated by a butler's pantry, in which is a built-in cupboard, C-750, as well as a sink. Another cupboard, sink, a worktable C-762, and ironing board C-770, form the kitchen equipment. The refrigerator is placed in the entry in the rear adjacent to the back porch. Notice the handy storage room also provided in this entry.

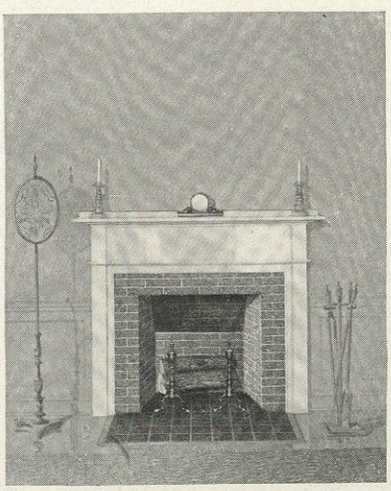
Upstairs four splendid bedrooms suggest quiet repose in this Colonial home. Each of them has light and ventilation from windows on two sides. Each chamber has a good closet and in addition there is a built-in linen closet, C-813, in the hallway not far from the bathroom. What solid comfort in the bedroom with a fireplace and the beautiful mantel, C-615. Another chamber has a built-in dressing table, and a third has a set of built-in trays.

Erlton is an exceptionally good design for hollow tile and stucco or brick construction. However, you need not hesitate to build it of siding for any Colonial design is well adapted to that construction. Very little landscape adornment is required to bring out the real attractions of this home, so impressive is its design.

CHEERINESS. *To the lover of the hearth-fire, the fireplaces in the living room, library and upstairs bedroom, surrounded by mantels C-616, C-618 and C-615, respectively, will offer an especial appeal. There is no piece of Curtis built-in furniture that does not give its measure of comfort and helpfulness.*

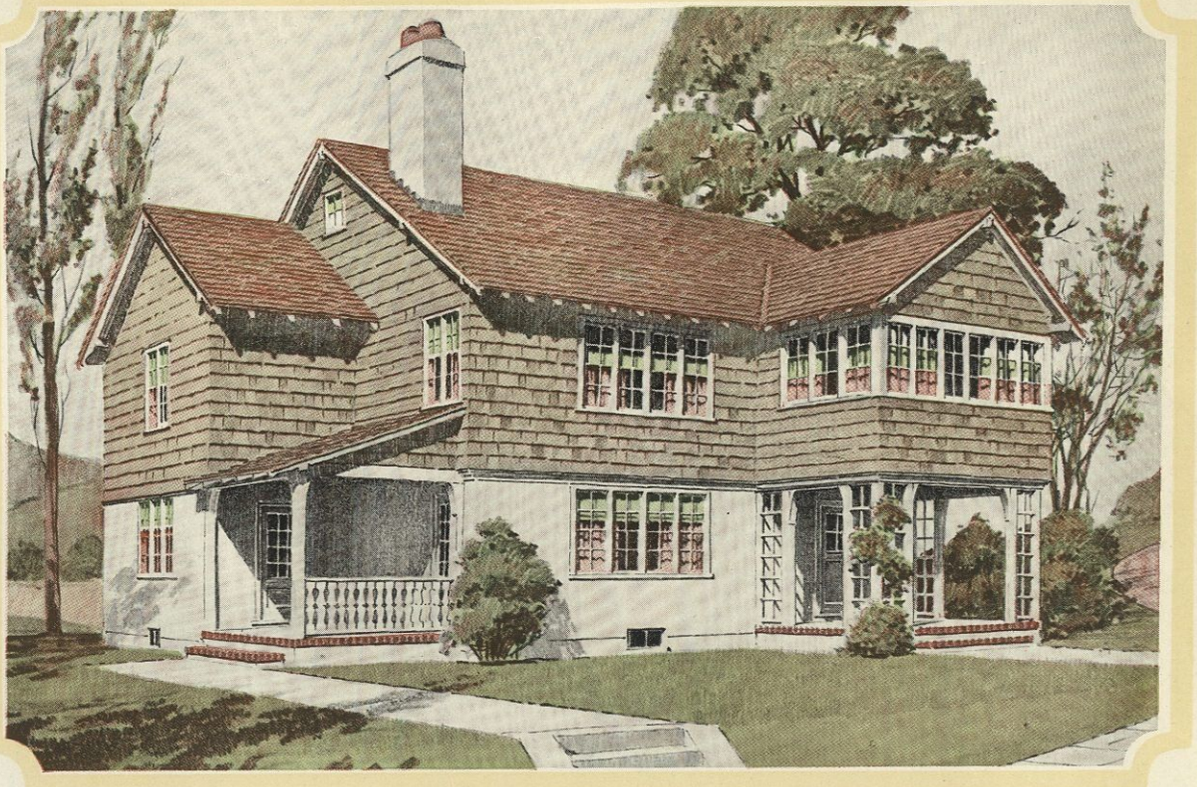


C-819 in the introduction illustrate other plan. Also C-818 in the portfolio.



C-615. Isn't the beauty of the white or ivory Colonial mantel and woodwork an inspiration? Most Colonial mantels are painted.

A Beautiful Home V



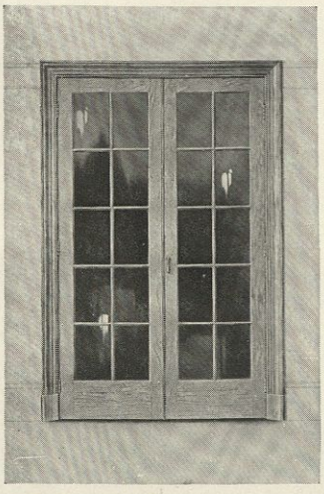
Sherrill C-82

WHEN you build Sherrill you will have a home that will be a joy to live in. Every day spent there will have many pleasures, for many are the comforts of this Western home. Its exterior, too, is one that you can be proud of. It is an attractive design, due to the excellent proportions and the combination of stucco with shingles on the walls of the house.

This house must have a 50-foot lot, one where the house need be set back but a short distance from the street. It can be an inside or a corner lot and can have a south, north or west frontage, of which that on the west is preferred. An east frontage would be undesirable because of the fact that the bedrooms would be given an exposure that would enable you to enjoy the cooling breezes from the south at night.

The spacious living room is the place for fun and frolic and the joy of companionship before an open fire. Four casement sash opening onto the front lawn furnish the room with light and sunshine and sufficient air to make it a pleasant, livable room at all times.

For your more studious moments there's the library in a most secluded corner of the

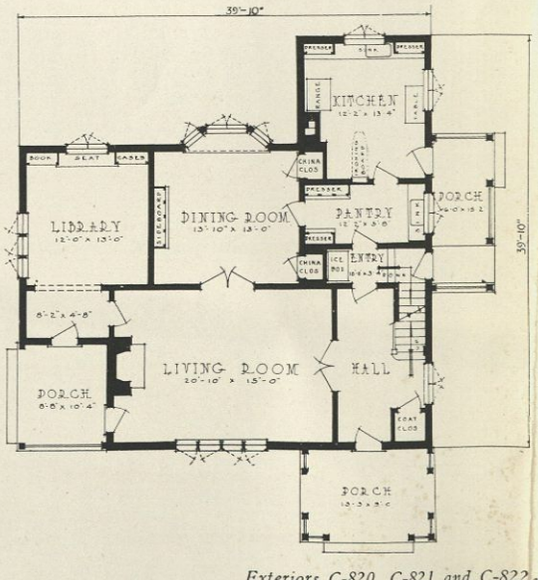


C-321. With French doors you can shut out sounds and drafts between rooms while not cutting off the light.

Distinctive

DUE TO ITS EXCELLENT PROPORTIONS *and the use of both shingles and stucco, Sherrill presents a distinctive and unusual exterior. This treatment plus an intensely practical plan will give you a home which not only will arouse favorable comment but also will prove a source of satisfaction to the owner from the standpoint of utility.*

The sleeping porch with twelve attractive casement sash on three sides insures year 'round comfort.



Exteriors C-820, C-821 and C-822 n architectural expressi s

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Vith Many Comforts

23—Western

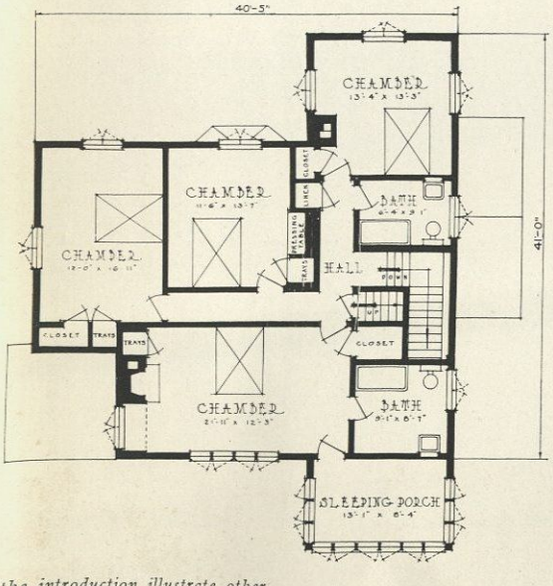
house where you can think or read undisturbed. Two handsome bookcases are built into corners of this room and between them is a window seat with a hinged top.

Two useful china cases built into one side of the dining room give proper balance to the sideboard built-in on the opposite side. A happy arrangement of casement sash in a bay on the outside wall provides ample light in the daytime for everything in this room.

A convenient butler's pantry effectively separates the kitchen from the dining room. With this arrangement no kitchen odors are likely to penetrate to the dining room or any other room in the house. Conveniences similar to those in the well-lighted and ventilated kitchen are built-in in the pantry as well.

In the main hall is the open stairway of excellent design that connects with the hall on the second floor onto which four chambers and a bathroom open individually. The large chamber with the fireplace at one end has its own bathroom and sleeping porch.

The bathroom door is almost directly opposite the linen closet built-in in the hall where ample household supplies for the upstairs rooms can be kept. Notice how conveniently the bathroom fixtures can be arranged to require a minimum of space.



the introduction illustrate other of this basic plan.

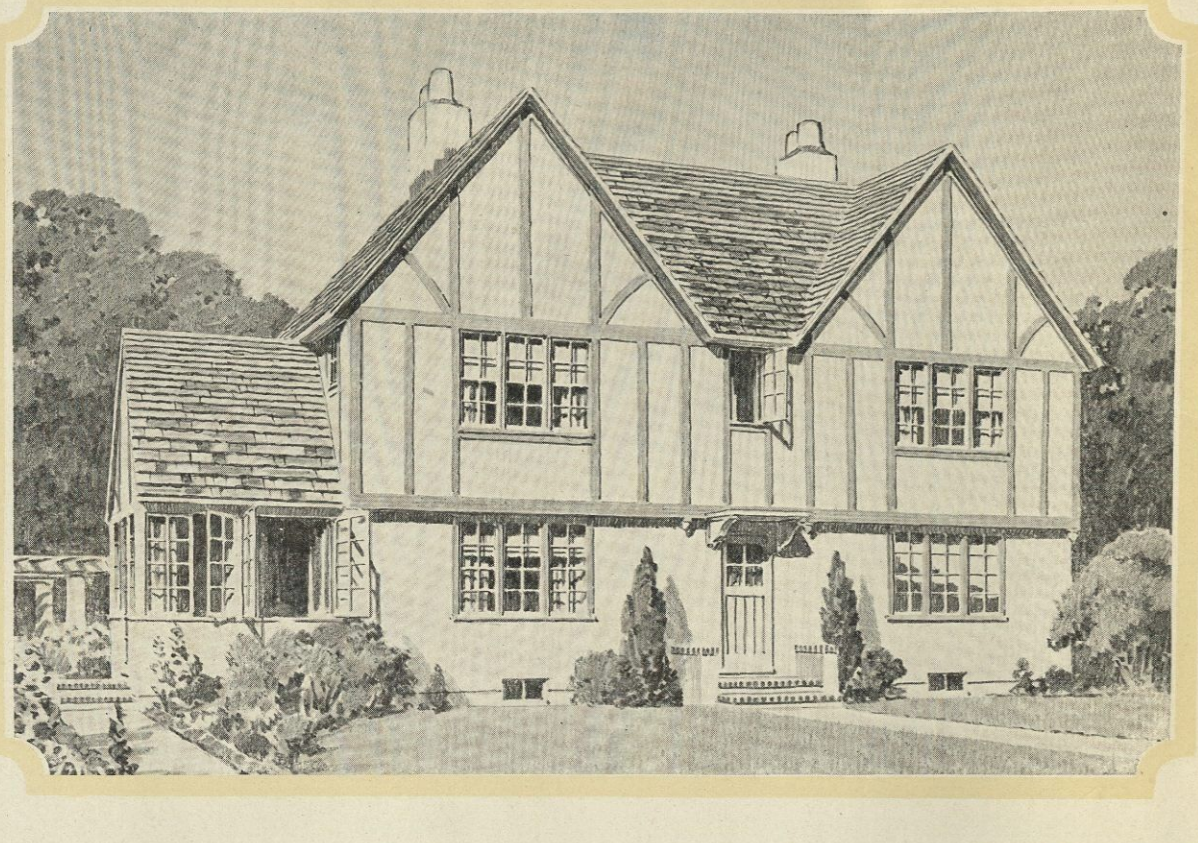
Honest Doors

THE STILES *and rails of Curtis veneered doors have built-up cores which consist of narrow white pine blocks, tongued and grooved and glued together.*

The built-up stiles and rails are then doweled together with dowels of straight grained flawless hardwood having a spiral groove running throughout their length. The glue flows back through this groove, producing a joint of greater strength than is possessed by the fibre of the wood itself.

C-705. A regular interior door encloses this hidden china closet, which has both shelves and drawers.

There Is More Than



Lathrop C-8

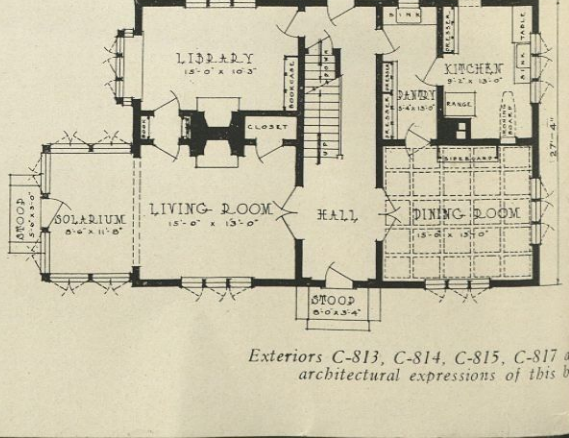
YOU should have a 70-foot lot for this home and it should front either the south or the north. There is a delightful informality in Lathrop. The two gables, whose walls are divided by the half-timbers, make an interesting, impressive facade. The composition shows symmetry and balance, too, the sun parlor on the left offsetting the breakfast porch on the right, and the two chimneys giving distinction.

An inviting little entrance welcomes you into the impressively central hallway where before you, you see the English stairway, design C-912, in its massive beauty. You pass through French doors, C-320, and come into the living room. And there lies before you approximately the view shown you in the interior picture. The fireplace with mantel, C-619, is on one side, while straight ahead is the sun parlor making a handsome vista. Casement sash at the front of the room flood it with light. Notice the closet in one corner by the fireplace.

Bookcases C-585 line the passage from the living room to the library and a permanent bookcase, C-579, in the library itself offers more room for these silent friends. Casement sash on two sides also light the library and make it a pleasant place to read before the

C-912. The blue print plans of this house give your carpenter detailed instructions for the installation of this handsome stairway.

CONSCIENTIOUSLY MADE WOODWORK *to be entirely satisfactory must be conscientiously made from details which are architecturally right. A recent connection with architects of note insure to you designs of which you will never tire and which will never "go out of style." In the above you find the meaning of the Curtis trademark, when applied to permanent furniture.*



Exteriors C-813, C-814, C-815, C-817 and C- architectural expressions of this ba

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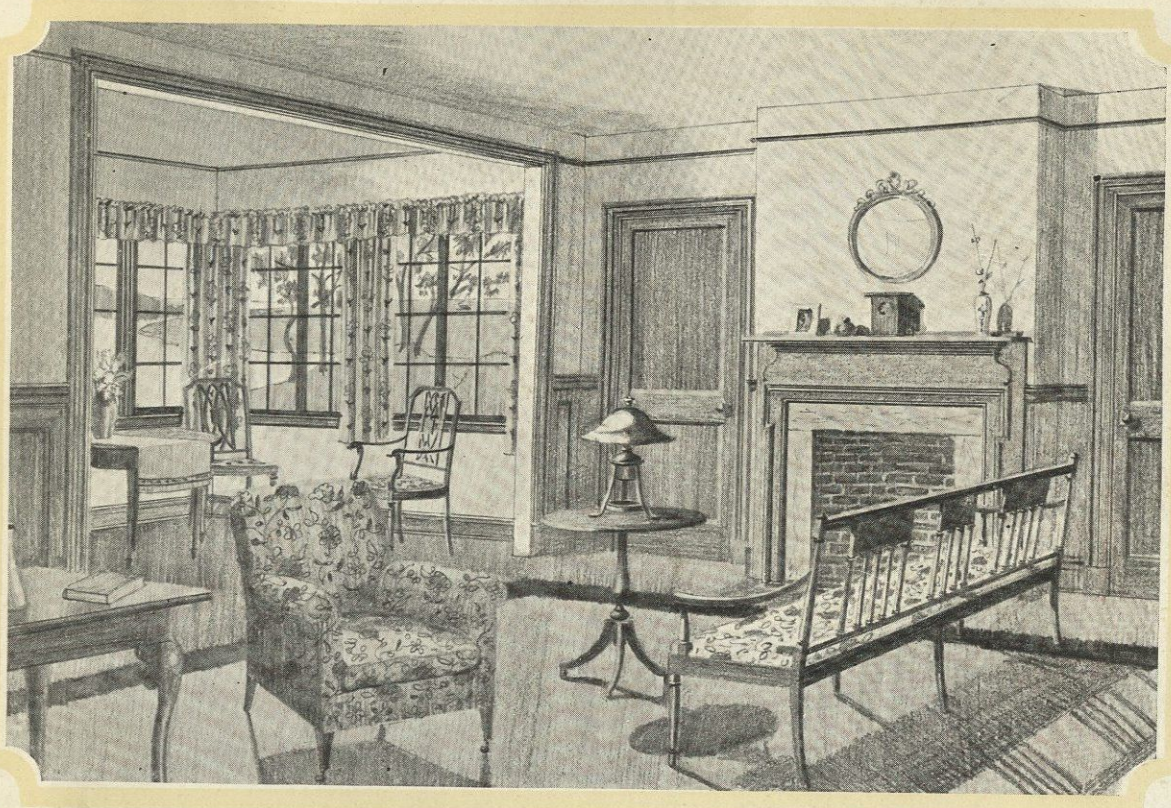
Comfort in This Home



818—English

hearth fire and mantel, C-621. A built-in seat in the bay is an attractive feature of the room. A library in your home is worth every cent it costs.

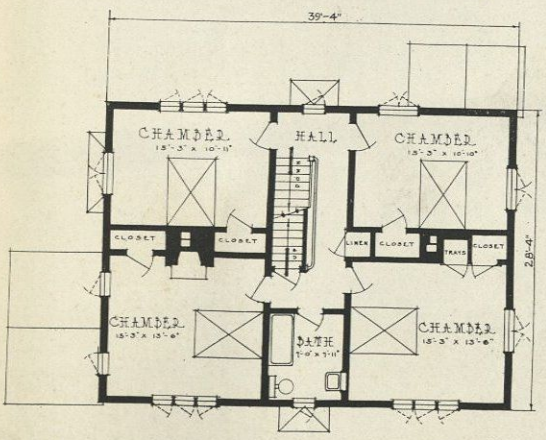
From the hall in the front of the house, you come upon the dining room. A vista similar to that in the interior picture would be presented if you chose to add a breakfast porch similar in size to the solarium off the living room.

The dining room is not permeated with odors from the kitchen, for the two rooms are separated by a butler's pantry, in which are built-in cupboards, C-750 and C-752, as well as a sink. Another cupboard, sink, worktable C-762, and ironing board C-770, form the kitchen equipment. The refrigerator is placed in the daylight entry in the rear adjacent to the back porch.

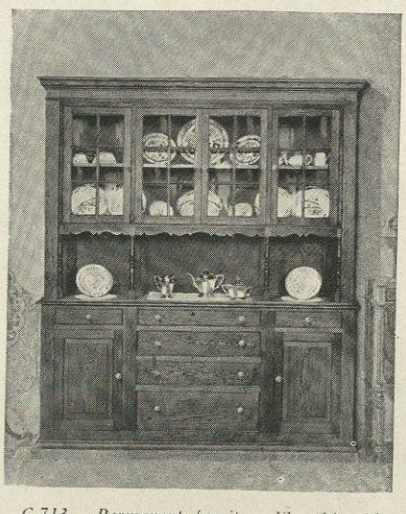
Upstairs four splendid bedrooms suggest quiet repose in this English home. Each of them has light and ventilation from casements on two sides. What solid comfort in a bedroom with a fireplace and the beautiful mantel, C-621! Each chamber has a good closet.

Lathrop has a storage attic reached by way of a comfortable stairway.

A Library in Your Home *is worth every cent it costs. It is a retreat from household activity, a place for the children to study their lessons, for the head of the household to rest and to think, a pleasant room for "the family" when daughter entertains. Bookcase capacity may be increased by addition of other units similar to those shown on the plan.*



819 in the introduction illustrate other lan. Also C-816 in the portfolio.



C 713. Permanent furniture like this sideboard strikes a note of formality and dignity in the dining room which commands admiration.

1855 CURTIS WOODWORK

How to Select the Ho

DECIDING upon the house to build is, from first to last, a process of observing restrictions while obtaining as many of the things you desire as possible. You will have to compromise on some things, naturally. The limitations of your purse and other factors beyond your control must be considered. But you won't have to compromise on the things that really matter if you keep in mind continually the goal that you are striving for, and so try to find a house that will fit your needs rather than your whims.

What are some of the points that you should observe when selecting a house? To know these is important: It is the purpose of this portfolio to outline some of them for you and to furnish you a guide in the selection of your home. But right at the outset a word of caution is worth while. Do not, in any case, approach any group of plans with your mind all made up regarding a certain definite arrangement. If you do, you are almost certain to be disappointed and you will miss the good points in those you look at. Take each one and consider that someone has thought it all out quite carefully; that there is a reason for every feature—doors, rooms, windows, stairways, closets—all have been arranged with thought as to how they might be furnished and used. If you do this you are sure to run upon a great many ideas as to arrangement which may never have occurred to you. This is largely a matter which must be considered with every plan.

What Size House?

The first thing you must consider in selecting the home to fit your needs is the size of the house. Too large a home means a waste in investment, unnecessary work and expense in maintenance; and naturally it costs more to furnish a large house than it does a smaller one.

But what do we mean by size? The dimensions of the house? The size of the rooms? Yes, in a way, but the primary consideration is rather the number of rooms. Generally speaking, the decision will rest upon the number of bedrooms. *Decide upon how many bedrooms you want.* This is a point upon which a decision should be nailed down tight before you take up the study of plans.

What Size Lot?

Perhaps you have already decided upon the lot or plot of ground upon which you expect to build. The site nearly always imposes restrictions upon the size of the house, upon its arrangement and sometimes upon its design. If you have not purchased your lot, then you have a free choice.

You will find all lots either wide or narrow, deep or shallow. If you must build on a relatively narrow lot, then you should select a home with a narrow front to the street; this does not mean that a house with a wide frontage may not well be used on an inside lot, but rather that a wide house on a narrow lot will look cramped and this is, above all, an effect to be avoided.

Then, your lot may be on a corner. This is an important matter, for there are some houses in this portfolio which have been designed especially to take advantage of such a situation. Not that these houses may not be well used on inside lots, but rather that they have been so designed as to look well upon a corner.

Another thing: Perhaps, if you don't already have one, you expect sooner or later to possess an automobile. If so, make provisions now, before you build your home, for its housing. Leave room for it on the site and be sure that you have an adequate approach to the garage, otherwise, you may find it very inaccessible when you come to build your garage as an after-thought.

The Location?

If your home is in the South, you certainly will want a house where there is good cross ventilation; an open house with high ceilings and tall windows and ample ventilation in the roof space. You will want a good overhang upon the roof to keep the walls cool, and a large open porch. This house will not need a cellar for a heater, because you can have a small fuel room on the first floor for less than the cost of a full cellar. You will want flues and fireplaces for the principal rooms and a rear porch for the laundry tubs.

If your house is in the North, you will probably desire a more compact structure, one that is easy to heat in the winter. For cold climates, a two-story house may better serve the purpose and you will want a basement with a heater and you will not need the wide, overhanging roof.

If you build in the East or the West, it makes no difference what kind of a house you select. There is no good reason why one type is better than another in either of these areas. What you want mainly is an adequate house—well planned and designed, a home of character. Such a house is good in any locality.

Immediate Surroundings?

What about the immediate surroundings? Place a very simple, almost severe looking two-story house in among others of more complex design and it will have distinction. Place it in the open country without trees about it and it is not so satisfying as one in which the effect is low. Contrary to the usual notion, it is advantageous to build a house in conformity to neighboring houses (provided they be reasonably good ones) rather than to strive to build one which differs as widely as possible from them. Each house will then contribute to the value of the others.

Orientation?

Now, the fourth consideration is, how does your property lie with respect to the points of the compass? In other words, in what direction will your house face? This is an important point, for surely you will want to place your porch so that it will furnish shade but not shut out the sun altogether; nor face the north where you will desire light in the rooms situated on that side of the house. Nor will you want your house so planned that the principal bedrooms will get no sunlight as they would were they located on the north side.

Assume a street running east and west; half the house faces north and half south. If the porch is placed in the front of the house facing north, it will shut out the light where we desire to have light, it will be a cold place in the early spring when we like to "get out" and it will drive us indoors early in the fall. Placing it on either the west or east side eliminates these two rather objectionable features. With the house upon the north side of the street, the porch serves equally well on the front, for it will not shut out the sun from rooms upon the porch except at noon, unless the house has more than two rooms across the front. With the street running north and south, the problem here is simple, for the only condition to be avoided in locating the porch is to avoid a plan having it upon the north side.

There is still another matter affected by the points of the compass and that has to do with the direction of the prevailing summer winds, if the location is hot in summer. Keep that in mind in locating bedrooms and, if possible, select a plan in which they are so located as to occur upon the side from which the prevailing night winds blow. This will insure cool bedrooms.

Vistas?

Perhaps you have purchased your site and found that there is or is not a good "view" from it. Naturally, if you have a pleasant outlook for your living rooms, you will enjoy your home all the more, but don't let the lack of one disappoint you and discourage you from building, for you will find after you have planted your garden and seeded your lawn and got the bushes and vines to growing, that an attractive foreground is of much greater moment than a distant landscape.

What Type of Exterior?

With the foregoing points clearly in mind, you are in a position to pick out approximately the plan that you desire. Now you arrive at the question: What will the exterior of the house look like?

Here again you will find a general principle which you can apply to all conditions and that is: the simpler the exterior, the longer will it wear; you will not get tired of it. Gingerbread work has gone out of date and for a very good reason—a house is not primarily an ornament. It is built to fill the most useful purpose one can well imagine—to become the home of a family. Why should your house be covered with a lot of perfectly useless things which serve no good purpose in a home? Pleasure can be obtained by making the house in good proportion, for it is the proportion between the various features of a house that really determines whether it is good from the standpoint of the exterior. If a house is bad in proportion all the ornamentation in the world will not make it a good design.

The revival of the Colonial and English architecture always occurs after a period of departure from it—not so much from a desire to copy as it is from a desire to do things simply; to have things in good proportion and in good taste; and it happens that the Colonial houses in America and the houses of Great Britain of about a century ago were in good proportion and in good taste.

me to Fit Your Needs

So it is that when houses of today are well designed, they follow these good examples of times that have passed.

A word about the size of things. These, in the main, are wooden houses. This thought has been kept in mind in designing the details. They are wooden details. You may miss some of the large wooden posts so common in recent years and the large wooden members many times larger than necessary to perform the service required of them. These you will not see for the simple reason that the use of such features violates the first principle of design. There is no sense in using a wooden post that is six times larger than required to support a porch roof. Therefore, why use it? If it is made of approximately the proper size to do its work, it will look right. The use of the huge wooden details came about largely because we copied certain stone forms which came down from the Greeks and Romans. If the Greeks and Romans had built in wood instead of stone and marble, it is probable that they would have handled that material as other people, the Japanese, for instance, and their architectural details would all have been made up of smaller pieces.

On the front page of this folder, Mr. Ackerman tells briefly about the character of the Colonial, English, Western and Southern houses which are shown in this portfolio. The essential points of these architectural expressions are discussed in even greater detail in the Curtis Catalog, which you can see at the office of your lumber dealer. The pictures of the exteriors in this portfolio will help you in coming to a decision on this point just as the sketches of the floor plans will enable you to select a house of the proper size and room arrangement.

What About the Interior?

In the descriptions of the houses in this portfolio, the various points mentioned above are considered and you are given some specific help in the selecting of the proper arrangement. Now there are a great many things that you want to know about the inside. The plans give you a world of information. They tell you how the rooms are arranged with respect to each other, the size of each room, where openings are placed, and they give you the location of the principal architectural features, such as stairways, fireplaces, built-in seats, china cases, kitchen cupboards and the like. With these plans, and with your lot in mind, you can study these houses and imagine yourself just what light each room will get on your lot, and what its vista or outlook will be. You are told approximately what the basement layout is for every house. The facilities of the attic are also explained, if the house has an attic, and with this information you know what you can depend upon in the way of storage room, laundry room and other service features.

To get even a more definite picture of the inside of the home, go to the office of your lumber dealer and ask to see his catalog of Curtis Woodwork so that you can pick out the designs that will go into your new home. The woodwork in that book is illustrated from actual photographs. The pictures give you a definite idea as to the possible architectural effects which each item will give your interior.

The Curtis Woodwork for these homes has been designed by the same architects—Trowbridge & Ackerman—who designed the houses. Thus you are insured harmonious architectural treatment of your home, not only on the outside but also on the inside, for there is a complete assortment of Curtis Woodwork items designed for houses of every expression: Colonial, Southern, English and Western.

This woodwork has been standardized. Standardized not only as to designs but also as to sizes, as Mr. Ackerman explains on the front cover of this folder. From the variety of designs shown in the Curtis Catalog, it will be apparent to you that standardization will not prevent you in any way from obtaining distinctive woodwork, for there are so many different patterns to select from. Standardizing woodwork as to sizes is merely a common sense way of making it possible to effect economy in manufacturing the woodwork. There is no sense, for example, in one locality having a certain size of "wood opening" for its windows while a neighboring locality has another. Such variations as this make it impossible to produce woodwork for all localities in quantities large enough to bring down the cost of production. Consequently, such quantity production has never before been effected, with the result that dealers have never been in a position to offer the maximum of service to their customers which they might were they able to carry in stock just the items that might be needed under all circumstances.

This one matter of standardization and quantity production, in which the Curtis Companies are pioneers, is really revolutionary in the industry, for this is the first time that builders of homes have been offered the opportunity to take advantage of this common sense idea and thus to have beautiful woodwork wthout having to pay extra for it.

What Will It Cost?

Lastly, you will want to know about what your new home is going to cost. This point is considered last because it properly should be so considered. These other factors must enter in first. It is far better that you build a house to fit your needs and then strive to afford it, even though you may have to wait a year or two longer for it, than that you build any sort of structure just so it comes within a certain sum of money.

When you have finally selected the house you want to build, you can expect definite cost information on it. Your lumber dealer will give you an exact figure on the cost of all the material that will be necessary to build that home, in your town, and at the time he quotes you. This information will enable you to place your order and to give directions for going ahead.

The Plans for the Builder?

Your lumber dealer will then supply you with blue prints of the plans of the house for the guidance of the builder. The blue prints that he will give you will be of unusual character as regards their completeness and their reliability. The plans, drawn to ¼-inch scale, have been worked out not only by Trowbridge & Ackerman, who are recognized authorities on matters of design, but also by the architects in the Curtis Service Bureau, guided by their practical experience in furnishing thousands of plans for thousands of homebuilders during the past decade. Consequently, these plans are dependable from every standpoint of architectural design and practicability of construction.

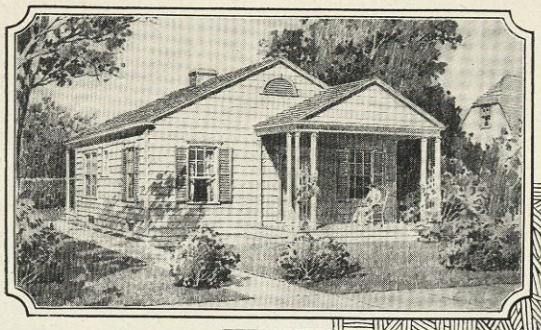
They will give your carpenter full dimensions for everything, even to the "framing-in" dimensions for windows and other openings. They give him, for two-story houses, on a 1-inch scale, the details of the construction of the stairway. He simply cannot go wrong in cutting his rough horses, in the placing of his platforms or in providing the head room over the stairs. Full dimensions are also given for the framing-in of all built-in furniture. The studs around the openings are shown and the details are drawn to a ¾-inch scale. The plans provide for the location of lighting fixtures and for power outlets. The heating arrangement of the house is also indicated. Wall sections are detailed, showing their design and their construction. The blue prints are clear, uniform and reliable and woodwork designs are specified right on them. It is even suggested how the woodwork should be finished to conform with the architectural character of the house itself. Such plans insure your builder carrying out the design and all the things you decide upon when you made up your mind to build. You can know that your house is going to be exactly as you want it.

Obviously, when all such things have been so carefully thought out, and every precaution taken to insure your getting a home that will exactly fit your needs, it should be unnecessary for you to have any or many changes made in your plans. It is better to make none, for every change hazards to a certain extent, the perfection of your house. Changes may alter its design, disrupt its room arrangement, or weaken its construction so that it is entirely or partially spoiled from the standpoint of use or future sale or desirability.

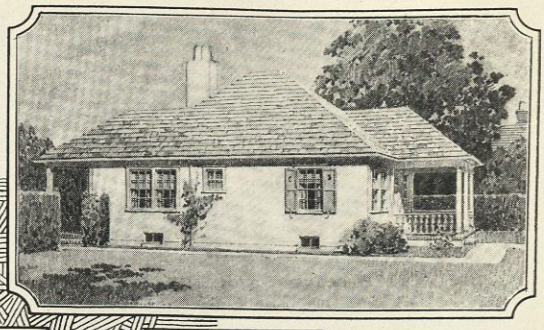
Though you may not desire to keep all of the sheets illustrating the houses in this portfolio, prefering to retain only those illustrations and descriptions of houses which you particularly like for reference on some future date, it would be wise to keep this folder to refer to occasionally as a guide in selecting the house to fit your needs. That is the kind of home you want and it is the only kind that will give you complete satisfaction as the years go on.

However, if after careful study of the houses and their plans as shown in this portfolio, you find nothing that is exactly what you desire, turn to the inside spread of this folder and follow the directions given there for obtaining further service in selecting the home to fit your needs.

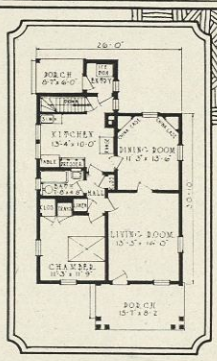
CURTIS 1865 WOODWORK

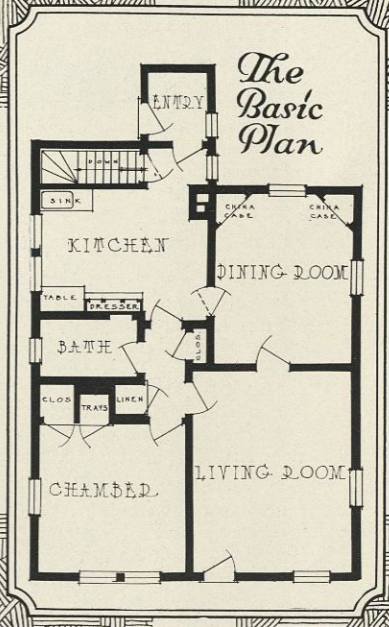


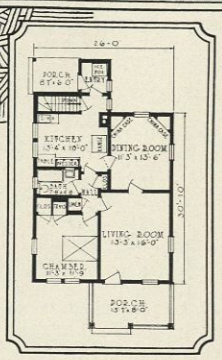
Colonial
C-400

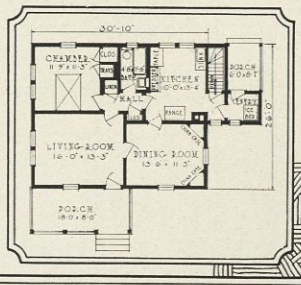


English
C-402

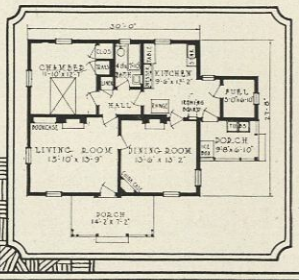




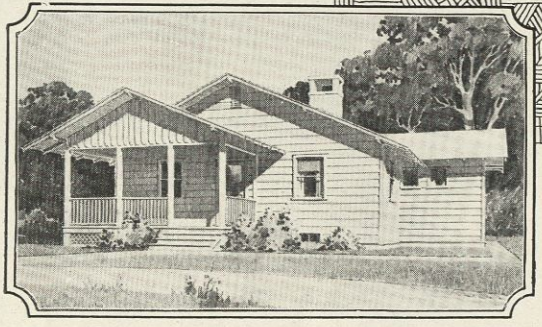


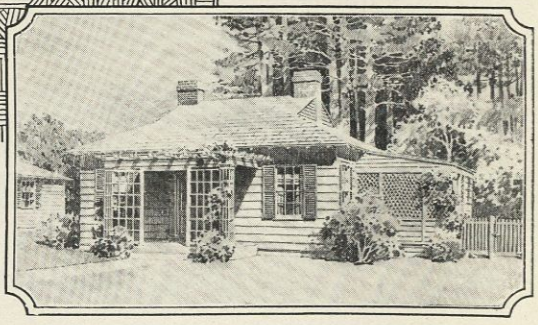


Western
C-404



Southern
C-407





The Wisdom of The Standardized Plan

A "Basic Plan" Defined

IF there is one thing that America has contributed to the domestic architecture of the world, it is the distinctively American floor plan. Speaking of American houses in his introduction to Ruby Ross Goodnow and Rayne Adams' splendid book, "The Honest House" (published by the Century Company), Mr. Frederick L. Ackerman says:

"There is something expressed in the *plans* of the houses themselves, in the very arrangement of the plots of land upon which they stand, which differentiates them from similar houses of Europe. They do not express landlordism, but rather a group of democratic ideals. This is particularly and most clearly expressed in the plan, where is indicated, not as some would have it, the aping of a more pretentious scale of life, but rather a direct and vigorous expression of the effort to lead a life that is sociable, though laborious. It is this which we have expressed in our small houses. That is why . . . they are characteristic of America. Is this not enough for a new people to have accomplished? Is this not a sufficiently firm foundation upon which to build?"

This is the foundation upon which the plan service that this portfolio and your Curtis dealer offers you, is built. A number of floor plans of given room arrangements have been taken as standard layouts or "basic plans." For example, in the six-room houses, you will find eleven basically different room layouts, three being for one-story houses and eight for two-story houses. Likewise with houses of other sizes. Enough variety in these is offered, therefore, to suit almost every requirement.

From these basic plans have been evolved a greater number of houses in various architectural expressions. They are, in the main, the Colonial, English and Western types. Most of the one-story houses have also been given the Southern expression.

The above illustration shows how the basic plan idea works out for a small four-room cottage. In the upper left-hand corner you see the Colonial expression of this basic plan. The specific plan as arranged for that house is identical with the basic plan itself. This Colonial house has a gable roof and it is intended for the narrow side of the house to face the street, in which case the porch will be upon the front.

In the upper right-hand corner, you see the English expression; the layout of rooms has in no wise been altered. The English house has a hip roof, and it is designed for the narrow side to face the street, the porch being upon the front.

In the lower left-hand corner, the Western expression is shown. The gable roof runs the width instead of the length of the house. The long side of the house is intended to face the street, the porch being upon the front of the house.

In the lower right-hand corner, the Southern expression and its plan is shown. The wide side is again intended to front upon the street, the porch being in the middle of this elevation. Notice that the basement stairway shown on the other three plans has been omitted and the entry made larger to serve as a fuel shed. An enclosed porch has been added on the street side.

A careful study of the differences between these plans and the architectural types of the houses will convince you of the wisdom of the standardized plan. You will find that:

First. It gives you a wide choice of exteriors to choose from without sacrificing the convenient layout of rooms that you may have decided upon. Each house is as carefully thought out as every other from the standpoint of economy in the use of materials.

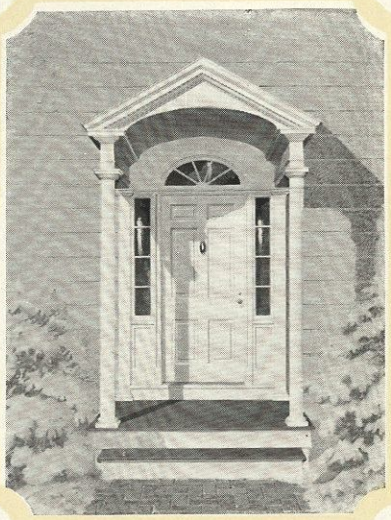
Second. The production of standardized materials with resulting lower costs is thus made possible. For example, notice the china closets on the basic plan. These also occur in the plans for all of the houses; one of them, of course, being omitted in the Southern house to make way for the fireplace in the dining room. The same cupboards are indicated in all the kitchens, too.

Third. Unusual individuality from the standpoint of exterior appearance is given each house. This is particularly of value in instances where a large number of houses are to be built at the same time in the same community. It allows each owner to have a home distinctly different.

STEWART-SIMMONS PRESS, WATERLOO, IOWA

Better Built Homes

VOLUME VII



A Word from the Architects

Architects of standing are very rarely afforded the opportunity to design small houses for individual clients. This is because the builder of the average small home cannot afford to pay the fee which the good architect is obliged to charge, because of the nature of his business. This condition is admitted by the profession and many attempts have been and are being made to place the services of the profession at the disposal of the builder of the small home, but as yet, relatively little has resulted from this effort; and small, poorly designed houses are still being built by the thousands.

Recognizing fully this condition, we therefore, welcomed the opportunity offered us by the Curtis Companies to engage in a very serious effort to place at the disposal of the small homebuilder, whatever ability we may possess in this tremendously important field of architectural design.

In designing the two hundred odd houses for the Curtis Companies, underlying thought had first to do with the designing of such a variety of houses as would meet the needs of the greatest number of people with respect to the number and size of rooms. This was done by providing "basic" plans, ranging from three to eight rooms each, both one and two stories and adapting them to wide and narrow lots, and corner lots, and to different frontages.

Each basic plan, with a few exceptions, is to be found in four different "expressions," or architectural treatment. Colonial, English, Southern and Western. We all recognize the Colonial house as about the best thing which America has produced in the way of domestic architecture. It is always good and it is fortunately coming back into a much more general use. We all recognize, too, that there is no better domestic architecture than that which may be found in England. In selecting "English" as a prototype for one of the expressions, we have merely carried out a tendency which is to be observed. The Southern houses are so named because of the arrangement of plan, where the principal idea in mind has been to insure the maximum amount of air and cross ventilation in the house, and to have large porches. "Western" is used to designate a type which has wide overhanging eaves designed along the lines of houses built more recently in the West or Middle West.

To insure the carrying out of the design of these houses in their actual construction, designs of woodwork items or architectural "details" that should be employed in them were also provided, for it is upon such things as the doors, windows, molding, trim and permanent furniture that the architectural character of every house largely depends. To make it possible to effect economy in the production of this woodwork, the items were standardized, not only in respect to design, but also as to sizes.

Some people may question whether or not good architecture may be made of standardized details and forms. From my point of view, it does not matter whether they be standardized forms or otherwise, so long as they are good forms. In support of this statement, I would point out that the smaller houses in England which are rated as being among the best examples of domestic architecture, were built from what might be considered as standardized details. In the same way, in Colonial architecture, we find upon examination that there were comparatively few forms and these were, in the main, of a standardized character. This is particularly true of certain periods.

Generally speaking, what is needed in the way of details to produce good architecture, is a few good forms which may be arranged and disposed in a simple manner and much better results are certain to be obtained in this way than through a great variety of forms used, always with the thought in mind of producing something new or in greater variety.

Frederick L. Ackerman A. I. A.

TROWBRIDGE & ACKERMAN, Architects, *New York City*

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